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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

RECORDS OF GOVERNMENT

IN THE

POLICE BRANCH OF THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

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No. II.

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No. 1.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING THE SHETSUNDEES IN THE SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY.

THE earliest and most comprehensive description of the Shetsundee system to be found on the records of Government is the following, by Mr. Thackeray, when Collector of Dharwar; it formed an accompaniment to Mr. Chaplin's Report of the 5th November 1821, on the Revenue Settlements of the Collectorates of Dharwar, Poona, Ahmednuggur, and Khandesh, in A. D. 1819-20. The various suggestions therein contained for the improved distribution and better regulation for the Shetsundee establishments in the Southern Mahratta Country were approved of by Mr. Chaplin, and recommended by him, and the sanction of Government was accorded in para. 13 of the Government Letter to the address of the Sole Commissioner in the Deccan, dated the 24th January 1822.

"POLICE.

"The chain of our Police here is in so many places broken or disjointed by the intermixture of the villages of Jagheerdars and independent chiefs, that we can hardly expect to establish a regular system of co-operation for the apprehension of thieves and the discovery of stolen property. This evil scarcely admits of a remedy, but the extent of it will depend much on the personal character of our neighbours and our influence with them. We have certainly no right to interfere with the external management of villages belonging to chiefs whose independence is guaranteed; but the general welfare of the Carnatic demands such precautions as shall insure the co-operation of our neighbours. This consideration justifies our enjoining the adoption of a regular system in the Jagheers; and we might, I think, prevail on each Jagheerdar to appoint a Superintendent of Police, who should be answerable to our Government as well as to his immediate superior, in cases connected with the general administration of criminal justice.

"This plan might be adopted with respect to the Kolapore Raja, the Putwurduns, the Nepaneekur, the chiefs of Moodhole, Kittoor, Ramdroog, Nurgoond, Gunjundergurh, and Malojee Row Gorpur. With regard to the smaller possessions of the Savanore Nabob, Gokla's mother, the Jambootukur, and the other Dessayes, our police must have a concurrent jurisdiction in their villages, the Patels, Curnums, and Tullaries of which should be responsible to us as well as to their immediate masters.

"SHETSUNDEES.

"Many evils of the system here arise from the irregular distribution of the village Shetsundees; and the lawless habits of this class, from the want of public spirit in the Patels, Curnums, and other village officers, and from the disordered state of that part of the Dooab which belongs to His Highness the Nizam.

"The accompanying Statement, No. 4, shows that nothing can be more irregular than the distribution of the Shetsundees. The whole number of them in the district is 13,246. The estimated value of their lands amounts to Rupees 1,50,025; their money allowances (called milevenum) are Rupees 3,149, and the pay of the peons who guard the hill forts in the Padshapoor Talook amounts to Rupees 2,414. Thus the whole authorized allowances of the Shetsundees in money and land are Rupees 1,55,584, which sum, on the average, allows to each person only Rupees 11-2-98 per annum.

" Their pay, however, varies so much in different places, that an average gives no correct idea of the amount. In the principal division, the average pay of a Shetsundee is Rupees 12-0-41. In the Beejapoor division it is only Rupees 5-2-41; but in the talookas that lately composed the Raneebednoor division, it amounts to Rupees 25-1-37.

" In the talookas where the Dessayes were most powerful, the number of Shetsundees is much out of proportion. The jealousies and disputes between the different Dessayes induced each to keep up an establishment in proportion to that of his neighbour. When one Dessaye increased his number of men, the rest did the same, as Shetsundees were found cheaper than any other kind of peons. In some villages the Shetsundee establishment has been increased in times of danger, and should have again been reduced on the return of tranquillity, but the Shetsundees still keep the lands that were intended merely as temporary assignments; such lands are now resumed as they come to light; but I propose to assess them so moderately, that the Shetsundees who hold them may be induced to cultivate them as usual; harsher treatment would compel the dismissed Shetsundees to desert their lands, which would become waste.

" The number of Shetsundees in many places seems out of all proportion, owing to the decline of the villages, and the reduced condition of all the inhabitants except the Shetsundees, whose Inam lands have enabled them to thrive, while the rest of the community have been impoverished by exactions. From villages of this description I propose to transfer part of the establishment to other places which are without Shetsundees, or which have increased in size and population since their quotas of Shetsundees were allotted.

" In some talookas a proportion of the Shetsundees of particular villages perform garrison duties in the large forts; and although they constitute a bad garrison in times of danger, their services may enable us to reduce the Asham* establishment, which is much too large in the talookas where there are many fortified places.

" With reference to the whole district, the total number of Shetsundees† also appears very excessive. Their allowances amount to near seven per cent. of the land revenue; but if we can reform their habits, we may draft from them a body of peons which will enable us to dispense with a large proportion of our Asham establishment.

" ASHAM.

" We have at present 2,695 Asham peons, who cost Rupees 1,86,417 per annum. Within the next three years we may reduce the number to one-half, and if Shetsundees be substituted for half of the remainder, the difference between their batta, at the rate of two and a half rupees per mensem and the pay of the Asham, which is five rupees, will cause a saving of Rs. 26,414 per annum.

" The present number of Asham peons in the Carnatic is 2,695, their pay	Rs.	1,86,417
" Proposed reduction within the next three years, 1,347 persons, their pay	„	93,209
" Remaining 1,347 peons, their pay	„	93,208
" The pay of one-half, or 673, to remain as it is ..... Rs. 46,604		
" Batta payable to Shetsundees, to be substituted for the other half .... „ 20,190		
		66,794
" Saving gained by employing Shetsundees	Rs.	26,415

" In this manner we might effect a saving of Rs. 26,415 within the next three or four years, but there are considerations which should make us cautious as well as economical. Since the Carnatic came into our hands, the minds of all classes have been overawed by the recollection of our military successes and the strength of our regular army; they still see us prepared to keep the country with nearly the same force that enabled us to conquer it, and the fears of the disaffected are greater than their hopes. It remains to be proved how far a great reduction in the force would encourage them to return to their former lawless habits, and in order to be on the safe side, we should avoid sudden reductions. The presence of an army gives great weight to the police, and the permanent establishment of Asham peons should be fixed with reference to that of the regular force.

" Most of the improvements of which the police is susceptible have been already suggested : they are the formation of the Asham into regular Buradarees, with gradations of pay which shall afford means of rewarding and punishing, the selection of a body of peons from the Shetsundees of the

* Military peons employed in the principal towns and garrisons.

† Land revenue, Rs. 22,30,400.
Shetsundee land, 1,55,589.

border villages, for the maintenance of the frontier police, a more equal distribut
among all the villages of the district, the selection of companies of Shetsundees to be substituted for a portion of the Asham wherever the country shall be ripe for this measure, the gradual reformation of the Patels, Koolkurnees, and village officers, who under an improved system will alone be sufficient for all the ordinary purposes of police, the appointment of responsible Darogas of Police by the great Jagheerdars, and the thorough introduction of our own system into the villages of all the petty chiefs, some of whom still exercise powers which are incompatible with their relation to our Government."

Nothing further is to be traced in the records of Government on the subject of the Shetsundees till the year 1835, when it was for the first time brought to the notice of Government in the Judicial Department by the Magistrate of Dharwar, that the number of Shetsundee Police dispersed over the talookas of Indee and Moodebehal was inadequate to the wants of those districts; and a similar application was made in 1838* by the Magistrate of Belgaum, who applied for permission to distribute 200 additional Shetsundees in the villages most requiring their presence, and to grant each man from 20 to 30 acres of land in inam. The country in which these talookas were situated was one which he said eminently required protection, bordering, as it did, upon the turbulent and unsettled territories subject to his Highness the Nizam, and in itself, from poverty and a distant and changing administration, fallen into habits of excess and violence.

For the reasons given in the correspondence which accompanied the Magistrate's proposition, Government were fully convinced of the necessity of acceding to the application, but it was deemed advisable in the first instance to consult the Judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut on the subject. The Court, in replying, proposed that as the Shetsundees were very unequally scattered over the Southern Mahratta Country, some of the districts having more and others less than they required, a more equal distribution of them should be made as vacancies occurred; but the majority of the Court were of opinion that any additional Shetsundees ought to be entertained on a money allowance, in preference to alienating more lands.

Government, however, was of a different opinion, and it was considered preferable to assign to them lands to be held as hereditary holdings to connect them with the villages, and thus to maintain their old and efficient character as a Village Police. This was also considered more economical than a money stipend, as waste lands were plenty, and a general improvement of the land revenue might be anticipated by the increased security that would result from locating Shetsundees on this footing in the villages.

It was also determined to grant the new Shetsundees Rs. 2 per mensem till their service lands could be brought under cultivation.

It was also decided, with reference to a suggestion that had been made of re-distributing the Shetsundees, that this class of public servants could not be obliged to quit those villages where they possessed hereditary lands for the purpose of being stationed in other districts. When removed, even temporarily, to do duty in another village, they were entitled to receive batta; but any

* At the above periods these talookas formed a part of the Dharwar and Belgaum Collectorates, but they were subsequently tranferred to Sholapoor, on its being constituted a separate collectorate, in 1839.

attempt to station them there permanently being opposed to the principle of their tenure, would, it was expected, in all likelihood fail.

The Judges were requested to ascertain the names of the villages to which it was proposed to attach new Shetsundees, the number that would be required, the exact extent of waste lands to be assigned for their remuneration, and the expense of the proposed arrangement, to enable Government to decide upon it with as little delay as possible.

In reply to the above reference, the Judges, under date the 18th November 1839, submitted two letters from the Magistrate (Mr. Simson) and Assistant Magistrate (Mr. Law) of Sholapoor, furnishing the information called for. From these documents it appeared that the number of additional Shetsundees required was 501, for whose maintenance 12,618 acres of waste land would have to be assigned, the rent of which, at the ordinary rate of assessment, would be Rs. 5,173 per annum. As, however, it would require at least one year to bring these lands into cultivation, and if two rupees per mensem were to be paid to each Shetsundee during that period, as previously determined on by Government, the expense of this arrangement would be 12,024.

The entertainment of these five hundred and one (501) additional Shetsundees for the Indee and Moodebehal districts was finally sanctioned by Government on the 27th April 1840, and instructions were communicated on the same date to the Revenue Department directing that immediate orders might thence be issued to the Collector of Sholapoor in regard to the assignment of the lands necessary for the support of these men in the village of the talookas in question, to which they are attached. The grant of an allowance of two rupees per mensem to each Shetsundee was also authorized as a village charge from the 1st May 1840 to the 31st December following, subject to the confirmation of the Government of India, which was accorded on the 25th of the first quoted month.

It was further resolved, that the lands allowed to these Shetsundees were to be held hereditarily by the person actually performing the duties for which they were assigned, and that they were inalienable by the holder, but subject to forfeiture for misconduct. In failure of heirs, also, the lands were to revert to Government, and it was the duty of the Collector to appoint another person during the minority of an heir, or in case of the party holding the office being, from old age or infirmity, unfit to conduct the duties efficiently. In communicating these instructions to the Judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, it was also intimated to them that, in the opinion of Government, the cost of the lands thus granted would be rather nominal than real, from the abundance of waste lands in the talookas in which the assignments were authorized to be made, as well as from the paucity and poverty of the inhabitants, and that the settlement of these additional Shetsundees in the different villages would very probably tend to the increase of the general revenue, from the protection it would give to property, and also by fixing the inhabitants more permanently in the villages.

With a view to remedy as much as possible the inconvenience caused by the unequal distribution of the Shetsundees, it was further resolved that on

the death of any Shetsundee without heirs in those districts where, from their superfluous number, a reduction was deemed practicable, the lands held by the deceased should be resumed, in lieu of filling up the vacancy.

Reform of the Shetsundee Police of the Southern Mahratta Country.

The full reform, however, of the Shetsundee Police of the Southern Mahratta Country may be said to have originated in a proposition of the Second Assistant Magistrate of Belgaum (Mr. Campbell), made in December 1838, for a permanent increase to the Shetsundees in the Chickodee Talooka of that Collectorate.

In the course of the correspondence that ensued on this and similar subsequent proposals, the Magistrate of Belgaum was requested to report whether the Shetsundees could not be transferred from those talookas where they were numerous to those where they were required, for short periods ; and whether any increase in their emolument should be made in grants of land or in cash.

In answer to this, the Magistrate, Mr. Townsend, stated that the efficiency of the Shetsundees in question would be more surely attained by a sufficient money payment than by a salary part in money and part in land : for he observed that in a scarce season, when robberies are most numerous, and no means of increasing the strength and vigilance of the Police could be dispensed with, the Shetsundee, who depended solely on his land for subsistence, would be strongly tempted to leave his village, and to wander in search of subsistence ; or, perhaps, to join bands of depredators. The Shetsundee in receipt of an inadequate cash payment is not equally so tempted as the man who depends entirely on the precarious produce of land. An inadequate salary, however, would not command efficient service ; and in proportion as he depended on crops that have more or less suffered from bad seasons, Government would lose the full benefit of his services.

Such objections, Mr. Townsend added, applied still more to the transfer of the Shetsundees from one talooka to another ; for if the Shetsundees would be efficient anywhere, it would be near their own homes ; and it would be considered a very hard measure to transfer them to a distance without increased remuneration.

In 1841 Mr. Greenhill, the Judicial Commissioner, took occasion in his Circuit Report to remark on the state of the Police of the Southern Mahratta Country generally, and he expressed a hope that the enormous and expensive Police force there would soon be remodelled, and reduced to better order and more efficiency.

In handing up this report, the majority of the Sudder Court recommended that a committee, similar to that whose labours had been so successful in the reorganization of the Poona City Police, should be appointed to inquire into the state of the Police of the Dharwar and Belgaum Zillahs, and report the means best calculated to place the whole system in an efficient state, without prejudice to the rights of individuals.

As it had, however, been previously determined in the Revenue Department that it was inexpedient to interfere with the rights and privileges of the Shetsundees, the Sudder Adawlut were informed that Government did not desire to invite a further discussion on the subject, and that it did not find sufficient grounds before it to call for any immediate inquiry into the Police

of the Southern Mahratta Country; the then recent disturbances in that quarter having entirely arisen from attacks of Arabs coming from the Nizam's dominions, and who were only to be met by Military detachments.

The subject was again brought forward in 1845, in which year Mr. Hadow, Acting First Assistant Magistrate of Belgaum, in a report on the disturbances which then prevailed in that part of the country, took occasion to remark again on the inefficiency of the Village Police of the Chickodee District, and he suggested measures for its improvement.

As, however, in handing up Mr. Hadow's report, the Magistrate (Mr. Reeves) stated that he proposed returning to the subject of the Police hereafter, Government determined to await the promised report, and he was informed that, as the subject was one of importance, Government trusted it would engage his earliest attention.

Mr. Reeves' report was sent up in July 1846.

He proposed entirely to reorganize the paid Police of the Belgaum Collectorate, and in place of the peons attached for Police purposes to the different District Officers, and who were stated to amount to 697, and to cost Rs. 32,951-13-4 per annum, to entertain the following establishment :—

One Superintendent, on.....	Rs. 600
One Assistant ditto.....	300
Ditto ditto ditto.....	200
Sixty Inspectors.....	1,200
Seven hundred Policemen, at Rs. 5..	3,500
Making a total monthly cost of....	Rs. 5,800
Or an annual one of	69,600

Mr. Reeves proposed also that the Superintendent should be subordinate to the Magistrate, and that he should be his Assistant; that he should have the entire control of the Police throughout the Collectorate; that for eight months of the year he should move about the districts; that a certain number of Policemen should be assigned to each district, and posted in proper places, where they should be kept constantly on the alert, through the agency of the Inspectors, who, to admit of their moving rapidly about, should be mounted.

A Police so organized would be able to maintain a most efficient control over the Village Police, with which he would place it in communication. The Village Police would be improved, and the talent and the information of the Village Officers would be at the disposal of Government. Intelligence could be carried rapidly to any distance, and the whole Police of the Collectorate could be combined for the public benefit on any emergency.

It was, however, deemed unnecessary to go into the consideration of the merits of this scheme, as financial considerations precluded Government from recommending it for the sanction of the Government of India, except upon the most convincing proof of its absolute necessity, and this was not afforded in Mr. Reeves' letter.

It appeared moreover to Government, that the existing establishment, inefficient as it was represented to be, must be capable of great improvement at

a far less charge than would be occasioned by the radical change in its organization proposed by Mr. Reeves, as the chief defect in its constitution seemed to be in the inequality in the rates of pay, which varied for peons, from Rs. 2 to 5; for Jemadars, from Rs. 15 to 8½; and for Naiks (exclusive of three in Beedee who receive Rs. 7¼), from Rs. 5½ to Rs. 4¼ per mensem.

In numerical strength, the establishment was deemed unobjectionable, there being, as shown in Mr. Reeves' report, 1,055 peons in the ten talookas composing the Collectorate.

In regard to the Shetsundees, it appeared from the 31st para. of Mr. Reeves' letter that there were 10,053 men distributed in 1,218 villages; and that the average annual emolument of each individual was Rs. 14-4-10, or an average annual charge on account of each village of Rs. 117-15-10. This amount, though inadequate remuneration for active and exclusive service, was considered by Government to be much beyond the value of any then rendered by the whole body of Shetsundees employed; and to be such, as under a different appropriation, ought to be sufficient to provide the requisite protection.

It was considered that much improvement might be attained: first, by an equalization of the pay of the stipendiary peons; and, secondly, by the introduction of an active and exacting superintendence of the Shetsundees, which should be directed to the following points:—

1st, To exact a better performance of the duties which the Shetsundees had from time immemorial been bound to perform.

2nd, To effect a better distribution of the Shetsundees than the one existing.

3rd, To effect a gradual reduction of the number of Shetsundees, in order to get rid of the unserviceable men, and to create a fund, wherewith to defray the expenses of augmenting the present allowances; or, what Govovernment considered might perhaps be more advantageous, increasing the Stipendiary Police.

The fund alluded to was proposed to be created from the lapsed allowances and forfeitures adjudged in cases of misconduct.

Before coming to any determination, however, Government was desirous of having the opinion of the Judges of the Sudder Adawlut on the question generally; and for this purpose the matter was submitted for their consideration.

The Judges in their reply stated, that they looked to the subject of enforcing the village system, provided for by the Regulations, as the first step for an improved Police; and, when that had been obtained, they would be better able to judge what system would be best calculated to keep it up and for superintending it, until which time they begged to suspend giving an opinion on the merits of Mr. Reeves' report in detail.

The Court, however, considered the plan a good one, and entertained hopes that it might be carried out at a less expense than had been calculated.

The Judges were thereupon directed to furnish Mr. Inverarity, the Acting Magistrate of Belgaum, with copies of the correspondence, and to call upon that gentleman to consider and report how the objects which Government had in view, viz. the equalization of the rates of pay allowed to the Police, and the

introduction of an active superintendence of the Shetsundees could, in his opinion, be best carried out.

Mr. Inverarity considered the equalization of the rates of pay now allowed to the peon Police impracticable, if the present numerical strength were maintained; and, considering the exigencies of the service, he deemed any reduction of that strength unadvisable.

As regarded the introduction of an active superintendence, Mr. Inverarity believed that to render any general system of Police effective, the Village Police should, in the first instance, be perfect in its working; and, to accomplish that end, that the appointment of some qualified officer would be desirable, whose first duty would be to muster and inspect the Shetsundees and other Village Police, retaining for service such as were effective, and compelling the non-effective to provide efficient substitutes.

For the purpose of exercising a general control over the Village Police, Mr. Inverarity proposed to place at the superintendent's entire disposal the 218 men who were borne at a monthly cost of Rs. 667-8-0, upon the Judicial Establishment.

Mr. Inverarity's suggestions, and the opinion of the Sudder Judges thereon, were communicated to Government in the month of August 1847. As the question of Police Reform for the whole Presidency, however, was then engaging attention, it was resolved to postpone the consideration of the measures proposed for improving the Belgaum Police, pending a decision on the general question.

In March 1848, Mr. Inverarity again drew attention to the necessity for effecting a systematic reform in the Police materials of the Belgaum Magistracy, and recommended the transfer of Mr. Charles Forjett, from his appointment of Principal Sudder Ameen at Ahmednuggur, to the special duty of reorganizing the Shetsundee force of Belgaum. As the reform recommended by Mr. Inverarity was, in its broad principles, homogenous with that proposed by Sir George Clerk for the whole Presidency, at least to such a degree as to render it quite capable of being subsequently extended, or by an easy transition, embodied in the general arrangements, Government was induced to depart from its previous resolution, and Mr. Forjett's services were accordingly placed at the disposal of the Magistrate of Belgaum.

Government letter of the 28th November 1848, No. 4657.

Mr. Inverarity was informed that Government approved generally of his suggestions for the reorganization of the Belgaum Police, and his attention was drawn to the following points, as especially requiring attention, in carrying out the contemplated reform :—

1st, The equalization of pay, and consequent diminution of the number of the Stipendiary Police, none of whom should receive a less sum monthly than Rs. 4.

2nd, The choice and organization of a body of inspectors from among the higher paid classes of peons.

3rd, The Police organization of the Shetsundees, in which the chief points for attention should be—

1st, The placing them under an efficient superintendence.

2nd, The defining and exacting from them the duties which they were bound to perform under the Native Government.

3rd, The defining their relations with the Police authorities and with the Stipendiary Police.

4th, Their more equal distribution among the villages, and, where practicable, increased remuneration.

These objects, it was added, should be attained by transfer, in cases where it could be effected without injustice, and by the gradual reduction of the numbers of the Shetsundees, and the appropriation of all lapsed Shetsundee holdings.

It was also pointed out to the Magistrate, that though this class of persons was not acknowleged as coming under the class of Wutundars (as the Patel and Koolkurnee), they had still some prescriptive claims to consideration; while, from their numbers and habits, they might, if driven to discontent, become turbulent and troublesome. Careful management was, therefore, considered necessary in bringing about the changes contemplated.

Under these instructions, Mr. Forjett commenced the reorganization of the Police Force of the Belgaum Collectorate: each talooka was reported on by him separately; but it is not necessary to quote the whole of them. The Reports of the Chickodee and Sumpgaum Talookas alone, are, therefore, given as a sample of the whole.—*Vide infra.*

No. 2.

No. 358 of 1849.

To the DEPUTY SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Bombay.

SIR,

In reply to your letter, No. 4556, dated 3rd instant, requiring a separate and full report on the conclusion of the reorganization of the Village Police of the Chickodee Talooka, I have the honor to inform you that the report alluded to was submitted to the Register to the Court of Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, on the 31st July last, and I beg now to submit a counterpart of it for the consideration of Government.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) H. W. REEVES, Magistrate.

Magistrate's Office, Belgaum, 9th November 1849.

No. 259 of 1849.

To the REGISTER TO THE SUDDER FOUJDAREE ADAWLUT,

Bombay.

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 150, dated 23rd of May last, I have the honor to submit Mr. Forjett's report on the arrangements made for the due and efficient working of the Shetsundee Police in the Chickodee Talooka, comprising 141 Government and 67 Enam Villages. This report is dated the 16th of July ; but, in consequence of the necessity for corrections and emendations, was only finally received yesterday.

2. The arrangements herein detailed are those already reported in my letter above quoted. The great principle followed out in them is to close unnecessary openings, and to station round the village a chain of guards, from which patrols are thrown inwards, so that on an alarm being given, these, with the chief patrole or grand rounds, stationed at the Chowree, can immediately take up the pursuit, while the guards at the various outlets are on the alert to intercept fugitive offenders, and to prevent the ingress of suspicious characters. The arrangements, I may add, have been greatly facilitated by the hearty co-operation of the villagers, and by the existence of the made roads which they have everywhere lately constructed at their own cost.

3. The result of these arrangements has hitherto been satisfactory, as will appear from the abstract of crime exhibited in Mr. Forjett's 5th and 15th paras. Between the 12th February and 30th June 1848 there occurred 2 murders, 13 highway and other robberies, and 1 serious assault, making a total of 16 offences; while, during the same period of the year 1849, when the Shetsundees were being reformed and rendered efficient, there have happened in the talooka 5 robberies, 1 arson, and 1 serious assault, making a total of 7 offences, the perpetrators of which have, in every case except one, been apprehended through the zeal and activity of the Police Patels and Shetsundees.

4. The total number of Shetsundees in the Chickodee Talooka, as shown in Mr. Forjett's 6th para., is 2,521, besides 32 extra men employed by Enamdars—total 2,553—whose present emoluments are Rs. 41,369-1-11. Of these, 1,743 men, being the most able-bodied and best paid of their class, and enjoying a present income of Rs. 31,445-5-6, have been set apart for Police duty; 484 men, with an income of Rs. 5,690-3-3, for revenue and miscellaneous duties; and 326 men, with an income of Rs. 4,233-9-2, are available for reduction.

5. The scale of pay for the Police Shetsundees has been fixed, as stated in Mr. Forjett's 19th para., at Rs. 24 per annum, for such as serve in towns, and Rs. 18 for such as serve in the smaller villages. This amount as a cash payment would be small, but being merely the value of the assessment on the land which they either now or prospectively will enjoy, it is, as shown in Mr. Forjett's 21st and 22nd paras., equivalent to an actual income of nearly Rs. 3 or 4 per mensem; which, with reference to the cheapness of the country, is a perfectly adequate remuneration.

6. On the proposed scale, as may be gathered from Mr. Forjett's 24th and 25th paras. and appended statements, the emoluments of 1,743 Shetsundees, required for the Rural Police duties of the talooka, will be Rs. 32,570-9-2,* being an excess of Rs. 1,125-3-8 over their present incomes, after the reduction in pay and numerical strength, proposed in the Statements 5 and 7 accompanying Mr. Forjett's report, have been effected. The lapsed Shetsundeeships enumerated in Mr. Forjett's Statements, Nos. 6 and 8, whose lands yield a rental of Rs. 715-12-0, are also applicable towards defraying the increased expense of Rs. 1,125-3-8 required to make up the Police salaries to their proposed amounts; there therefore only remains the sum of Rs. 409-7-8 per annum to be provided, and this can be supplied either by a slight reduction in the numerical strength of the Village Police—whose numbers, to ensure efficiency at the outset of a first experiment, have been fixed rather above what is absolutely necessary—or by a transfer of lapses from other talookas, where the emoluments and situations are more than the exigencies of the service require.

7. Every attention has been given by Mr. Forjett to the selection, under Act XI. of 1843, of efficient Patels to superintend the Shetsundees of their respective villages, and Statement No. 9, appended to his report, will show

* Total annual cost of Shetsundees on the full completion of arrangements, Rs. 36,804-2-4; being Rs. 32,570-9-2 + available transfers on reduction, Rs. 4,233-9-2.

that with a few exceptions the Police Patel of every village has had assigned to him from the family Wuttun an adequate remuneration for the service required of him.

8. These exceptions, 13 in number, are named in the 32nd para. of Mr. Forjett's report, and the deficiencies therein noted, can be either hereafter supplied from future lapses of Shetsundee holdings, or must await the decision of the Government of India in regard to the provision of remuneration in land or money for village establishments, as solicited in Mr. Chief Secretary Pringle's letter in the Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 3691, dated 17th October 1846, to the address of Mr. Secretary Bushby.

9. The total emoluments of the Patels in the Chickodee District, as exhibited in Statement No. 9, amount to Rs. 36,866-10-9, of which the sum of Rs. 6,228-8-0, or nearly one-sixth, has been set apart as the remuneration of the Village Police Officers.

10. The connecting link between the District and Village Police Officers is formed by the nomination of 18 Stipendiary Peons, who have certain circles of villages placed under their superintendence, and over whom are placed four Duffedars, who supervise their proceedings. Translations of the instructions given to each of these grades are appended to Mr. Forjett's report, and form Nos. 2 and 3. Over the whole is a Police Karkoon, on a salary of Rs. 15 per mensem, whose particular duty is to exact vigilance from his subordinates, and exercise a general control, in subordination to the District Police Officers.

11. With reference to Mr. Forjett's 23rd para., I am of opinion that the quantity and value of the lands held by Shetsundees can be best ascertained at the approaching survey, and that it is not necessary to divert the Police Karkoon's attention from his more important executive duties to the institution of inquiries which, in all likelihood, would be but imperfectly made by him.

12. With reference to Mr. Forjett's 33rd para., in which he proposes a resumption of superfluous Shetsundee holdings on the death of incumbents, I am of opinion that the carrying out of this proposition should be left to the discretion of the Magistrate, to act as circumstances may require in each case: the object being, by every fair, honest, and practicable means, to reduce the numerical strength of these servants to the standard required by the wants of the country in which they serve.

13. The question of making use of the Dessayes of the country (whose names and emoluments, as regards Chickodee, are entered in Mr. Forjett's 7th paragraph) in the general supervision of the executive Police of the villages within their respective Deshyuts, is already before the Court, as is also the question of providing a suitable salary of Rs. 30 or 40 per mensem for Police Karkoons, by remodelling the various talooka establishments, as submitted with my letter No. 38, dated 3rd March 1848.

14. In this report I have confined myself to a review of the financial results of the measure in progress as they affect the Chickodee Talooka. On the completion of similar Police arrangements in the other talookas of this division,

it will be necessary to take a comprehensive view of the whole subject, so as to effect the reduction of supernumeraries, both Shetsundee and Stipendiary, the equalization of emoluments, and the formation of a Police fund available for rewards, and for the supply of a coat and badge to each sepoy employed.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,

Acting Magistrate.

Magistrate's Office, Belgaum, 31*st July* 1849.

(True copy)

(Signed) H. W. REEVES,

Magistrate.

No. 3.

To J. D. INVERARITY, Esquire,

Acting Magistrate,

Belgaum.

Sir,

Having completed the reorganization of the Police of the Chickodee Talooka of the Belgaum Division of the Dharwar Zillah, I beg to submit a general report on the subject.

2. The Talooka of Chickodee was a forced cession to the British Government in 1827, from the late Rajah of Kolapore. This was a time when misrule and bad government had attained a climax in that principality, and the state of the Talooka of Chickodee was, as far as I have been able to ascertain, no exception to the general character of the country to which it belonged.

3. On coming under British rule, a Mamlutdar was appointed, and the usual routine system carried on. From that time to the present, this talooka has been considered the most prolific in crime in the Belgaum Division, a fact which the records of the Zillah Court of Dharwar will bear out.

4. The records of the same Court, as well as those of the Magistrate's Office, will also prove (from the number of convictions, which lead to the presumption that there must have been many cases not brought to light,) that the Shetsundees too have, by a free participation in crime, in no small way aided in bringing about such a result.

5. During the last five years there occurred in the Chickadee Talooka—

	Murders.	Gang Robberies.	Miscellaneous.
1844	4	16	426
1845	2	12	444
1846	6	8	489
1847	8	3	509
1848	10	4	389
1849 from 1st January to 11th February	2	0	16
„ from 12th February, the date on which the reorganization was commenced, to 30th June	..	..	7

6. The following is a Statement of the number of villages, Government and Enam, belonging to the talooka, the Police of which has been reorganized :—

Number of Villages.		Number of Village Police.									Stipendiary Police.	
				Shetsundees.								
							For Police duty.		For Revenue and Miscellaneous duty			
Khalsat, or Government.	Enam.	Patels.	Extra Police employed by Enamdars.	Present strength.	To be reduced.	Proposed strength.	Govt. Villages.	Enam Villages.	Govt. Villages.	Enam Villages.	Duffedars.	Peons.
141	67	204	32	2521	326	2195	1051	660	321	163	4	18

7. In the talooka are 12 Dessayes and 3 Mootaleh Dessayes, men of considerable substance, and, I believe, influence. Their Deshkuts are as follows :—

No.	Names.	No. of Villages.	Value of Deshkuts.		
			Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
1	Luknungowda, of Wuntmooree	162	35,641	5	11
2	Tumajee Rao, of Nundee	63	13,807	2	6
3	Moorar Rao, of Neepanee.....	41	12,014	1	10
4	Keshow Rao Tatia Sahib, of Enchulkurjee	2	109	6	0
5	Burmapa, of Chinchnee	3	709	12	2
6	Eshwuntrow Sahib, of Gosurwar.....	4	2,411	12	6
7	Dada Sahib, of Koorundwar.....	2	148	4	11
8	Narrain Rao, and Surjee Rao Ghatge	2	533	4	6
9	Anajee Rao, and Surjee Rao Ghatge	1	143	4	0
10	Madhow Rao Sahib, of Meeruj.....	3	244	15	11
11	Rachapa Venkeet Rao, of Englee.....	1	431	9	8
12	Govind Rao, of Aluknoor.....	3	1,053	9	3
	Moolatee Dessayes.				
1	Roodrapa Appajee, and Bhowan Rao Abbajee, of Shirgaon Mootaleek, of Wuntmooree Dessaye	63	17,519	10	9
2	Shesoo Narrain, of Beedee Mootaleek, of Nundee Dessaye.	4	523	12	0
3	Yemajee Veerpax, of Rajgolee Mootaleek, of Wuntmooree Dessaye.....	8	640	6	6
	Total.....	....	85,932	6	5

8. There are, besides, 4 Enamdars who exercise Police control under Regulation XV. of 1827 in 13 villages.

9. The reform and reorganization of the materials of this talooka were commenced on the 12th February last, and have been carried on in the following manner :—

I made it my duty to visit every town and village, to obtain substitutes for all unfit Shetsundees ; to have nominated by the Bhow Bund, under the

provisions of Act No. XI. of 1843, efficient Police Patels in the room of persons who, from age or other causes, were incompetent; to select the best sites for the guards in each town and village, and, where it was found necessary, to have more than one guard; to define and distinctly point out to the Police Patel and Shetsundees the limits of each guard, and to have every man employed on Police duty carefully instructed in the duty of guard patrole, &c.; to order, as a collateral means of enhancing the security of property, numerous small and unnecessary openings in towns and villages to be closed, by being either strongly hedged with Babool, or walled and doored, if necessary, at the option of the inhabitants, leaving only as many inlets into it as can be guarded by stationing guards of Shetsundees.

10. The latter plan I was induced to adopt for the following reasons:—

If a burglary takes place, these openings furnish a very ready means of egress for the removal of the stolen property. If a gang robbery is to be committed, they afford facilities for the entrance of the gang, and the work of depredation is despatched with so much celerity that the guard may urge, with apparent reason, that information of the occurrence had been brought to them when too late.

The bad feeling subsisting between the Mhars of the village and the ryots, is also matter of notoriety. The former are constantly complaining that their "Bullok" is inadequately paid, the latter that there is no means of satisfying their cupidity. Many cases of incendiarism are no doubt the result of private animosity, but that Mhars add largely to the number there can be no question; and both are equally aided in the work of revenge by the facilities which these openings afford.

The experience, too, that I had had in Police matters suggested the futility of calculating on the efficiency of a Police without the aid of such subsidiary arrangements, the adoption of which at Poona was followed by a simultaneous diminution of crime, which result it was found impossible to attain by other means, and even here it is only necessary to ask the inhabitants the simple question "What is the use of my stationing a guard on this or that spot, while the many openings around your village afford the means of ingress to gang robbers to plunder you of your property, and of egress to the evil disposed to steal out at night, and cut up or rob you of your crops, or set fire to your grain?" The answer is one of strong approval of the plan, and its sincerity is attested by the rapidity with which the work is progressing at their own expense in every town and village.

11. Having stationed the guards, defined the limits, and ordered the closing of all unnecessary openings, I next assemble the inhabitants of the town or village, and carefully explain to them the object of Government in regard to the Police arrangements now in progress, and endeavour to impress upon them the necessity, as well as the advantage, likely to result from their interesting themselves therein by bringing to notice instances either of relaxation of vigilance, or omissions of duty, on the part of the Police Patel or those under him. All Dessayes, Mootaleeks, and Enamdars, too, are personally visited, and their support of, and co-operation in, the arrangements solicited.

12. The arrangements made for the conduct of the Police duties are next prescribed on a paper of instructions; in this, the situation of each guard, the number of men attached to each, the extent of charge of each guard, &c. are entered; and in all villages in which the circumstances of its inhabitants render such prohibition necessary, the Shetsundees appointed as guards are *strictly* prohibited from engaging in any other duty connected with the village, in order to place it out of their power, with or without preconcert with gang or other robbers, to plead such engagement in excuse of their absence from their station at a time when their presence in it may have been most necessary, to afford the Police Karkoons ready means of inspecting the Shetsundees whenever necessary; a list of them, and how each is armed, is appended to the above paper, which is posted for general information in the Chowree of the village or in the principal guard room. I beg to enclose for your inspection, a sample translation of one of these documents.

13. As the reorganization proceeded, peons from District Police, well instructed in all the details of the duty, were appointed inspectors to circles of from 4 to 22, 25 and 26 villages each; and Duffedars exercising control over these inspectors, placed in supervision of villages from 48 to 54 each, the number in both cases being regulated by the distance of the villages from each other, and each division of the talooka placed under the general superintendence of the Police Karkoon belonging to it. Translations of instructions issued to these inspectors and Karkoons I beg to enclose.

14. There is good reason to believe that Dacoits, under pretence of being stone-cutters, &c. ramify the Southern Mahratta Country. The movements of these bodies are closely watched, and in every instance of the arrival of a party at a village, they are located near one of the guards for the night or day, and sent on, accompanied by one or two Shetsundees, on their way to the next village, and so on till they are beyond British limits.

15. The reform and reorganization, as far as they have been carried on, may, I think be fairly stated already to have produced a feeling of security among the inhabitants to which before they were nearly strangers, and a corresponding distrust among the evil disposed; for from the 12th February, the date on which I entered upon my duties, to the 30th June, a period of nearly five months, crime in the Mamlutdar's division of the Chickodee Talooka has been exceedingly light, as will appear from the following comparative statement with 1848. The result in the Mahalkurrie's division too have been equally favorable:—

	Murders.	Highway and other Robbery.	Arson.	Serious assault.	Total.
1848, from 12th February to 30th June	2	13	..	1	16
1849, from 12th February to 30th June	..	5	1	1	7

16. Of these five cases, one is a highway robbery of 8 annas and 6 pies,

one a larceny of Rs. 14-4-0; one a burglary of about Rs. 2,500, committed, it is supposed, by two men; and two cattle stealing. With the exception of two bullocks, which the Shetsundees of Sunkeswer are exerting themselves to recover, the property in the remaining cases has been all recovered. The highway robbers, the party concerned in one of the cases of cattle stealing, and in that of arson (a crime very difficult to prove), have been apprehended, convicted, and sentenced to different periods of imprisonment; and these results have been, I beg to state, attained by the zeal and activity evinced by the Police Patel and Shetsundees in the discharge of their duty. The prisoner sent up in the larceny case was acquitted for want of proof, and in that of the burglary two men are in confinement under suspicion, at Konoor, where the robbery occurred; the Police authority in which is vested in the Enamdar Tatia Maharaj.

17. It will thus be seen that the Village Police have begun to make themselves useful. The inhabitants of the talooka too, who are watching with no small interest the progress and results of the present operations, which they hailed as a desideratum calculated to lead to far greater security of life and property than hitherto, speak most favorably of their anxiety to acquit themselves faithfully; and I have myself, on visiting several villages, at different hours of the night, found them watchful and on the alert. This change, however, may be attributable to the warnings they have received from me, that they would meet with no leniency in the event of any neglect of duty. It is not to be expected that reform is to be brought about like a charm; that the apathy and indifference of years are all at once to be changed into activity and zeal; or that their desire, as hitherto, to participate in gang robberies, burglaries, &c. will undergo a sudden mutation. From the want of proper checks they had all along been left at liberty to do as they wished. These habits, are, I fear, too deeply rooted to be eradicated, except by a strong hand, and hence the necessity for a rigid system to enforce the obligations of their position as Policemen, and for severe punishment in cases of dereliction of duty. The attempts of gang robbers cannot possibly succeed under the arrangements introduced, except by their connivance or through their cowardice; and burglaries and other crimes may be altogether prevented by the exercise of the most ordinary vigilance; or, should any take place, it ought (from the limited nature of their charge, and from their having to do with only a stationary population, neither large nor wealthy, and every individual of which in person and character is known to them) to be followed by the apprehension of the parties concerned, and the recovery of the stolen property. Under these circumstances, I have thought it necessary to give them clearly to understand, that examples would be made by the resumption of the lands of those whom there might be good reason to suppose guilty either of connivance, combination with robbers, or of flagrant neglect of duty; and the adoption of this course, harsh as it may at first sight seem, I would very humbly, but most strenuously, urge. The novelty is at present working in our favour: after some time, or perhaps after a short time, some dereliction may occur, which, if not promptly punished, would lead them to conclude that threats of punishment were held out which were never

intended to be put into execution; they would then naturally relapse into their former habits, and the present arrangements would be rendered fruitless and nugatory.

18. The provisions of Section XXXVII. Regulation XII. of 1827 are, I am informed, at times put into operation against Shetsundees. Fines and mulcts might prove efficacious if they subjected the parties to privation without driving them to the commission of crime; but four-fifths of the Shetsundees, it is to be borne in mind, literally live from hand to mouth. Where there has been complicity with criminals the man ought not to be retained in the Police; and even for gross and culpable neglect, dismissal would be the most appropriate punishment. Fines which inflict want, incite to dishonesty. As to imprisonment in commutation of fine, followed afterwards by reinstatement in office, the effect of such punishment must, I think, be still more pernicious, as it leads to a belief on the part of the Shetsundee, that do what he may, his lands are safe.

19. In my Progress Report for the month of February last, in proposing a scale of pay for Shetsundees, I stated that Rs. 24 per annum might be fixed as the emolument of those attached to towns and large villages, and Rs. 18 for those serving in the smaller villages; I then said that I would in my general report submit my reasons for considering Rs. 18 adequate. This I now beg to do.

20. The lands held by Shetsundees are mostly of inferior quality, and on the average assessable, I may assume, at 12 annas per acre.

21. Twenty-four acres of such land, during a favorable season, will produce—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Joree 2½ Khundees, value at 12 Paulees per rupee, the average rate at which it is generally sold	66	8	0
Kurbee	10	0	0
Bran	2	8	0
Total....	79	0	0

Cost of Cultivation.

	Rs.	a.	p.			
2 Bullocks, value Rs. 25 : these will last 10 years	2	8	0			
Plough complete, Rs. 4-10, and knife for cutting grass Rs. 4 : these will last 4 years—¼	1	3	6			
Plane Rs. 2, Sowing Machine Rs. 1-8, Harrow Rs. 1-8, knife for cutting the crop 8 as., Hatchet 4 as., Pickaxe 8 as., Spade 8 as., total, Rs. 6-12 : these will last 8 years—⅛	0	13	6			
Crowbar Rs. 1 : this will last 16 years—1/16	0	1	0			
Rope, &c	1	4	0			
Food for Bullocks	12	0	0			
Seed	3	0	0			
1 Labourer to carry on the cultivation	24	0	0	44	14	0
There will remain				34	2	0
Allowing from this the pay of the Shetsundees				18	0	0
Balance....				16	2	0

22. From this it would appear, that though the pay of the Shetsundee may nominally be Rs. 18, it will, in reality, be equivalent nearly to Rupees 3

per mensem; which, considering the cheapness of the country, will be no inadequate remuneration.

23. This however must be *bonâ fide* secured to him by assigning to him land (estimated at a 10 years' average value) to yield that sum; and, with the view of guarding against any error on this score, I would suggest that before any assignment in augmentation of their present income is made, the exact value of their present holdings should be carefully ascertained. This suggestion I am induced to make, because the Shetsundees throughout the talooka complain that the lands they hold do not yield the sum represented as their rental value, and this statement is in a great measure corroborated by the Mamlutdar and Mahalkurrie. As the readiest means of ascertaining the value of their present holdings, the Police Karkoon might be directed immediately to institute investigation, and report the result, which the Mamlutdar and Mahulkurrie might afterwards be directed to test promiscuously, at every eight or ten villages, by examining the land of every five or ten Shetsundees according to the number there may be at such village. I would also propose this measure with regard to all other Shetsundees, the value of whose holdings are or appear to be above the scale proposed.

24. I would next beg to call your attention to the Statement No. 5, column No. 1 of which shows the present emolument of the Shetsundees of Government villages; column No. 2 the sum prospectively available by reduction in the pay of those who are now paid in excess of Rs. 18 and 24 per annum (the scale of pay proposed in the Progress Reports); column No. 3 the value of the holdings of the Shetsundees available for reduction; and column No. 4 the amount which it will be necessary to add to the emolument of those employed as Police who are now under paid, so as to raise it to the above scale. From this statement you will observe, that while the aggregate proposed increase amounts to Rs. 7,073-8-2, the amount in reduction of this charge, prospectively available, is Rs. 4,879-8-4; and now available from vacancies, as per statement No. 6, Rs. 386-7-3: making a total of Rs. 5,265-15-7, and leaving a net deficiency of Rs. 1,807-8-7.

Rs. 23,055-6-2.

Rs. 2,551-15-7.

Rs. 2,327-8-9.

Rs. 7,073-8-2.

25. The Statement No. 7 exhibits under similar heads similar particulars connected with the Shetsundees of the Enam villages, viz. their present pay, the sums available by reduction in pay, by reduction in numerical strength, and the amount which it will be necessary to add to the emolument of those who are under paid. The proposed increase amounts to Rs. 3,063-15-7, the amount prospectively available to Rs. 4,132-11-9, and now available, from vacancies, as per Statement No. 8, to Rs. 329-4-9: making a total of Rs. 4,462-0-6, which leaves an excess of Rs. 1,398-0-11.

Rs. 17,545-11-9.
Rs. 2,226-11-4.
Rs. 1,906-0-5.

26. Mr. Secretary Lumsden, in his letter No. 4657, dated 28th November 1848, to the Register of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut, states that Government expected that the changes contemplated in the Village Police would be carried out "without requiring any aid from the public resources of the state beyond that which is now sanctioned."

27. Concluding from this that Government would not attend to any recommendation in favour of making any new assignment of land to the Shetsundees, I was induced, in noticing in my first Progress Report the inadequacy of the pay of those belonging to Government villages, to state that the proposed increase was to be met by lapses. The prospective reduction in the numerical strength of the Shetsundees proposed in that report warranted the conclusion that a sufficient amount would be eventually available for that purpose; my further progress in the work of reorganization, however, satisfied me not only that the emolument of the Shetsundees comprised in my second report was considerably less than that in the first, but that the reduction that could be made in their number hereafter bore a very small proportion to the deficiency itself—my third Progress Report showed a still worse result. These facts I should have stated at the time, but considered that their embodiment under one view was likely to prove more satisfactory.

28. Mr. Secretary Lumsden, in the letter above alluded to, states, "But in every case where Shetsundees employed as Police are found to be inadequately paid, steps should be immediately taken to rectify so serious an error. If this essential particular be neglected, Government feels convinced that there will still be reason to regret, as hitherto, that the services rendered by this body of Shetsundees, collectively, are in no way equivalent to the aggregate emolument which they are receiving."

29. My future progress it is not unlikely would (from the large number of Shetsundees in the Sumpgaum and Pursghur Talookas) develope results much more satisfactory than at present as regards the number that may be made available, as casualties occur, for increasing the pay of the Shetsundees "employed as Police"; but the question arises, is the adequate remuneration of this body to depend upon prospects which, under the most favorable circumstances, must be very remote, while the wishes of Government are that "steps should be immediately taken to rectify so serious an error" as the inadequate payment of the men employed as Police?

30. A glance at the abstract at the foot of the Statement No. 5, showing that the emolument of 37 of these men is below Rs. 5 per annum, and of 215 below Rs. 10 per annum, and of 326 below Rs. 15 per annum, will, I trust, satisfy Government that if efficiency as a Police is to be hoped for from them, adequate remuneration for their services should be at once secured to them.

31. Hitherto the amount of emolument has not been a matter of much moment to Shetsundees. Their office was a sinecure, and their position gave them many opportunities of obtaining gain from improper sources, at the same time that it enabled them to deter injured parties from complaining against them. Such will not now be the case: specific duties and responsibilities have been imposed on them, and a system introduced which places many barriers between them and illicit gains, and hence the necessity of "immediately" augmenting the wages of such of them as are underpaid. I would therefore beg to urge that the measure be not delayed. It may be at once carried into effect by assignments from waste lands, which are more or less available in almost every village; and while the measure itself would be productive of the

greatest benefit to the country, it may be accomplished at but a present nominal charge to Government, as these waste lands yield but a trifling revenue.

32. I beg also to forward a Statement No. 9, showing the amount of the "Patilkee Wuttun" of the villages in the Chickodee Talooka, the emolument of the Police Patels previous to the reorganization, and the pay now fixed for each. Owing to the smallness of the Wuttun, the pay, as shown in the margin, of the Police Patels of 12 villages is very inadequate, and of one village the Patel has no pay at all. I would beg to urge the necessity of paying these men at the rate fixed for small villages, viz. Rs. 24 per annum.

Shekin Assoor	Rs.	16	14	8
Kujgowdunhutty		....		
Vizianuggur	„	11	0	0
Shirdun	„	2	9	3
Jogteal	„	8	5	0
Nagneeal	„	4	13	0
Hoonoor	„	10	0	0
Mastoolee	„	10	0	0
Shidlial	„	17	0	0
Ditto Warree	„	0	10	3
Nagnoor Dhadee	„	10	0	0
Aldad	„	13	0	0
Belunkee	„	5	13	2

33. In reducing the Shetsundees at villages where there are too many, I am very humbly of opinion that it is not necessary to wait till actual lapses take place through failure of heirs, but that the land of each as he dies off may at once be resumed. These men are a body of militia entertained for the preservation of the peace of the country; their tenure of office is not essentially hereditary, but, like all Indian institutions, it has assumed an hereditary tendency from its having been the practice with former Governments to allow the son, on the death or disability of his father to serve, to fill his place. The number of such appointments was doubtless proportioned to the then actual or supposed exigencies of the country; but as the same number is now unnecessary, I would very humbly submit whether Government has not a right to order their reduction; and the measure cannot be deemed harsh, so long as the reduction is not made until each superfluous incumbent is removed by death.

34. In conclusion, I would strongly advocate the employment of the Dessayes as local superintendents of the villages in their respective Deshkuts. These men possess influence in the country which is now lost to Government for any good or useful purpose. They derive large revenues from the State, for which they do nothing. They are idle and discontented, but willing to be employed. They would make good superintendents, and the stimulus to exertion would be love of power and praise, and the fear of disgrace and loss of Wuttun in case of misconduct.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) C. FORJETT,

On Special Duty.

Belgaum, 16*th July* 1849.

No. 4.

No. 372 of 1849.

Judicial Department.

To the Deputy Secretary to Government,

Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 358, dated 9th instant, transmitting a counterpart of the report dated 31st July last, made to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, on the reorganization of the Village Police of the Chickodee Talooka, I have now the honor to submit, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, transcript of a similar report on the Sumpgaum Talooka, which has this day been forwarded to the Registrar, to be laid before the Judges of the Court.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) H. W. REEVES,

Magistrate.

Belgaum, Magistrate's Office, 17th November 1849.

No. 371 of 1849.

To the Registrar to the Court of Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut,

Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my predecessor's letter No. 259, dated the 31st July last, submitting a General Report on the arrangements made by Mr. Forjett for the due and efficient working of the Shetsundee Police in the Chickodee Talooka, I have now the honor to submit a similar report, dated 12th ultimo, on the Sumpgaum Talooka, of the Belgaum division of the Dharwar Zillah, comprising 93 Government, and 2 Enam villages.

2. The system pursued has been exactly similar to that of the Chickodee district.

3. In the 11th para. Mr. Forjett explains an alteration connected with the Ghatee peons of this district which seems judicious, provided the posts admit of being visited as often as required. On this head I shall refer again to Mr. Forjett.

4. I am of opinion that nothing can yet with any safety be inferred from the statement of crime in para. 12, of the working of the new arrangements. The presence of an officer especially deputed for the organization of the Police in the Sumpgaum district is quite sufficient to account for the stated decrease of crime in it.

5. The following is a short abstract of Mr. Forjett's statement :—

Present number of Shetsundees, 1,575.	Now fixed upon for duty, Police and General, 842.	Remaining for reduction, 733.
Present emoluments, Rs. 25,643-10-8.	Sum fixed, Rs. 16,194-8-7.	Value of holdings available for reduction, Rs. 9,449-2-1.
Available pay of those who are now paid in excess of the scale proposed, Rs. 3,041-11-10.	Amount it will be necessary to add to the pay of those who are now paid below the scale, Rs. 1,798-5-2.	

Which affords this financial result :—

Difference between the pay of those Shetsundees now paid in excess of the scale and the amount which it will be necessary to add to the pay of those who are paid below the scale .....Rs.	3,041	11	10
	1,798	5	2
Available for future arrangements.....	1,243	6	8

6. Mr. Forjett keeps the Government and Enam villages separate throughout his reports, but I see no reason for this, being of opinion that Enamdars possess that part of the revenues only which has been awarded them by sunnud, *i. e.* that which remains after deducting the rights of Wuttundars, Huckdars, and Enamdars, with which the Government of the country only has to do. Now the holdings of the Shetsundees come under the latter category ; and I therefore conclude that they may be dealt with precisely the same in the villages of Enamdars as they are in those held direct by Government. This has now struck Mr. Forjett, as will be seen in his 22nd paragraph.

7. By giving the aggregate sums also, Mr. Forjett's descriptions would be very much cleared of confusion, and he would be more readily understood. The following statement, however, will show that his results are the same as mine :—

14th para. Sums prospectively available in Govt. villages..Rs.	12,232	13	10
Ditto ditto in Enam ditto.. „	349	12	5
Rs.	12,582	10	3
Deduct pay of those who are now paid below the scale proposed ..... „	1,798	5	2
Rs.	10,784	5	1
Deduct twice entered, once in total, and here again..... „	91	12	4
Rs.	10,692	8	9

8. In para. 29 of his report on Chickodee, dated 16th July last, Mr.

Forjett observed that " my future progress it is not unlikely would, from the large number of Shetsundees in the Sumpgaum and Pursghur Talookas, develope results much more satisfactory." In Chickodee there was a deficit of Rs. 409-7-8, (see the Acting Magistrate's letter, dated July 31st last, para. 6,) so that this anticipation would seem to have been verified.

9. I am of opinion, however, that the scale of pay fixed for the Shetsundees of small villages, viz. Rs. 18 per annum, is inadequate. Mr. Forjett, in paras. 21 and 22 of his report on Chickodee, gives a calculation, in which he asserts that Rs. 18 a year is in reality equivalent to Rs. 3 a month. I object to this calculation as a good deal too nice; nothing is easier than to make out things just as we wish them to be, but numberless little expenses are, we may be sure, incurred by cultivators which are omitted by Mr. Forjett, because they are accidents of which none but the cultivator himself is cognizant. It is also needful to bear in mind that the Shetsundee himself is not the cultivator : he has to trust his field to another person. The master's eye is here wanting.

10. Again, I do not agree with Mr. Forjett and the Acting Magistrate that because a village is small, therefore the Police should be worse paid than in a large village. Poverty is a defence sometimes only, not always : wealthy people, also, often live in very small villages, and this is peculiarly the case in the Southern Mahratta Country, where competency is much more frequent than in the Deccan. On this subject I need only refer to a case in point which will be found described in my letter of the 14th instant, No. 363, on a robbery in the Beedee Districts, in which the robbers outnumbered the whole of the inhabitants of the village, and carried off Rs 730-6-0 worth of property.

11. But, again, the question really is, whether the duty of the Police is different in a small village either in kind or degree? Unquestionably not. I find these duties described in Mr. Forjett's Chickodee Report, paras. 12—17, and in the Acting Magistrate's letter No. 150, May 23rd last; and I learn from Mr. Forjett himself that the men are on guard from six in the evening till daylight next morning every day of their lives. They must be the same in every way in all villages, varying only according to the character of the inhabitants and the neighbourhood. I myself have doubts as to whether duty so severe can be maintained, and whether Mr. Forjett's orders may not turn out a dead letter by-and-bye.

12. I therefore consider that the pay of the Shetsundees should be the same exactly all over the Southern Mahratta Country, and propose that the emoluments of all be fixed at Rs. 24 per annum. This would make all efficient.

13. Another point in which I differ from Mr. Forjett is this, that he has decided upon transferring Shetsundees from the villages in which their lands are, to do duty permanently in other villages without any extra pay. As authority for this he cites the instance of Chickodee, at which the Shetsundees of Wullubhugurh, eight or ten miles off, perform duty in rotation. But this case

does not apply: Wullubhugurh is a *dismantled* fort, and if the Shetsundees did not do duty at Chickodee, where only they are wanted, they would be absolutely idle. The Shetsundees of the dismantled fort of Bhungurh were similarly employed in the town of Belgaum before I left on sick certificate, but they give so much trouble, constantly requesting to be changed, and declaring that they were starving (as I believe they were), that as Police they were utterly useless, and at last were sent away entirely, the Mamlutdar of Beedee being ordered to employ them near their own locality only.

14. The whole question is brought into a very small compass when it is considered that a man who is required, on pain of dismissal, to mount guard all his life from six in the evening till daylight next morning, is to be removed from his home and resources, and placed out of convenient reach of his family, who, as his emoluments are derived from land, are peculiarly necessary to his comfort, much unjustifiable hardship must be the consequence of this procedure both to the Shetsundee himself and his family ; I have therefore interdicted it.

15. I certainly agree with Mr. Forjett (see 23rd para. of his Chickodee Report, and 20th of the one now under review) that the emolument of the Shetsundees, whatever it may be, must be *bonâ fide* secured to them, and that measures must be taken to ascertain as nearly as possible the value of the holdings. This, since Mr. Forjett himself cannot do as he proceeds with his work, will be done in due time by the Revenue Survey, to the Superintendent of which I can communicate any orders the Judges may issue to me on this point. It is probable that some lands may be in excess of their stated rental, but I am not yet sufficiently acquainted with the progress of the survey to give an opinion on this point.

16. In the last para. of his report, Mr. Forjett adverts to a practice among the Shetsundees of dividing their lands, which he rightly characterizes as a bar to efficiency. His remarks on the various difficulties which attend this practice are throughout correct, and, perhaps, these difficulties are not susceptible of complete remedy. Government can only see that the boundaries of the Shetsundees' lands are preserved intact, and declare that the lands are *bonâ fide* the service emoluments of the holders only, but with the disposal of the produce it cannot interfere. Mr. Forjett's proposal on this head, therefore, may be admitted to this extent, and I have issued the requisite orders.

17. With regard to the arrangements for the efficiency of the Patels, I have to state my opinion that the emoluments of the Police Patels ought not to be lower than Rs. 24 per annum in any village—for the reasons above assigned—in the case of the Shetsundees, and that *whenever practicable* this rule should be observed. No transfers or deductions can be made in the Wuttuns of Patels, and therefore we have no alternative but to take things as we find them.

18. Mr. Forjett goes into a calculation in the 16th and 21st paras., by which he concludes that a saving by reductions to the amount of Rs. 37,460-1-2 will be the result of his reorganization of the Police throughout this Collectorate. This is a highly gratifying prospect, but although I hope there will be a

saving, I think it rather premature to offer any opinion on the correctness of this calculation, especially as the Revenue Survey will necessitate considerable alterations in the rental of the whole of the lands of the Collectorate, and I have observed that the scale of pay of the Shetsundees requires some increase.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) H. W. REEVES, Magistrate.

Magistrate's Office, Belgaum, 17*th November* 1849.

(True copy)

(Signed) H. W. REEVES,

Magistrate.

No. 5.

To J. D. INVERARITY, Esquire,

Acting Magistrate,

Belgaum.

Sir,

The reorganization of the Sumpgaum Talooka being completed, I beg to submit the following report :—

2. The Talooka of Sumpgaum, although it formed the nucleus from which, about twenty years ago, the somewhat formidable band of Rayana of Sungolee, a village in the talooka, took its rise, is, notwithstanding, one of the talookas in the Belgaum Division in which crime, especially of a heinous character, is comparatively inconsiderable.

3. During the last few years there occurred in it :—

	Murder.	Manslaughter.	Burglary.	Miscellaneous.
1844	..	..	11	49
1845	1	..	8	50
1846	..	1	1	58
1847	..	..	11	76
1848	..	..	30	76

4. The following is a statement of the number of villages, Government and Enam, exclusive of 3 deserted villages, inadvertently numbered as villages in the Progress Reports belonging to the talooka, the Police of which has been reorganized :—

Number of Villages.		Number of Village Police.								Stipendiary Police.	
			Shetsundees.								
						For Police duty.		For Revenue & Miscellaneous duty.			
Government.	Enam.	Patels.	Present strength.	To be reduced.	Proposed strength.	Govt. Villages.	Enam Villages.	Govt. Villages.	Enam Villages.	Duffedars.	Peons.
93	2	94	1575	733	842	628	16	190	8	3	18

5. The total number of villages in the talooka is 108, viz. inhabited, as shown in the above Statement, Government villages 93, and Enam villages 2; and deserted villages, which have not, therefore, been entered, 13. The names of the latter are as follows :—

1. Chickmellee.
2. Chicklarkop.
3. Purukop.
4. Bewunkop.
5. Rewdail.
6. Sungteekop.
7. Choonchulgoodee.
8. Besulhuttee.
9. Mundunmuttee.
10. Chickbelowdee.
11. Kenchramunhal.
12. Komunkospee.
13. Hooleekuttee.

6. There are no passes or high roads in these villages to be guarded. There is a Police Patel attached to each village, and his duty is principally confined to following up the footmarks that may be traced into the lands of his village after the commission of a robbery ; and to the performance of this duty he should, I am humbly of opinion, be limited, to prevent his clashing with the Police Patels of the villages in which the Ryots of the deserted villages have taken up their abode.

7. With the exception of the villages of Kenchramunhal and Koomunkoopee, the rest have Shetsundees borne on their accounts : of the latter, those of the villages enumerated in the margin have been made available for reduction, as shown in the Progress Reports. Those of the villages of Besulhuttee and Hooleekuttee have been mustered, together with the Shetsundees of Kusba Belowdee, where they were doing duty, as the latter were not of themselves sufficient for the performance of the Police and general duties of that village ; and the Shetsundees of Mundunmuttee and Chickbelowdee, as they hold also lands at the villages of Angol and Shidsumoodra, respectively, have been mustered on the strength of the latter villages, and seven men in the last mentioned village being more than necessary, have been, as shown in Progress Report, made available for reduction.

Chickmellee.
Chicklarkop.
Purukop.
Bewunkop.
Rewdail.
Sungteekop.
Choonchulgoodee.

8. There are five Dessayes in this talooka, men of small emolument (as will appear from the following statement) and little influence, from whose nomination, as local superintendents, in the manner proposed in my last general report, with regard to the Dessayes in the Chickodee talooka, no advantage is likely to be derived.

No.	Names of Kurreate.	No. of Villages.	Names of Dessayes.	Value of Deshkut.		
				Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
1	Belowdee.. .	53	Verupa bin Nagapa	8	0	0
2			Bomapa Naik	250	0	0
3	Nesurgee	18	Neilapa bin Goorapa.....	300	0	0
4			Chemburapa bin Roodrapa	400	0	0
5	Kadurwullay....	8	Seerlapa bin Roodrapa	100	0	0
			Total.....	1,058	0	0

9. Two other persons, Humuwan and Coluppa, hold lands, value Rs. 86-12-6, in this talooka, but they are Dessayes of the Bugwaree Kurreate, in the Padshapoor Talooka.

10. The reform and reorganization of the materials of the Police of this talooka were commenced on the 14th August last, and completed on the 29th September, and the system pursued has been throughout exactly similar to that adopted in the Chickodee Talooka.

11. A body of Stipendiary Police, as per margin, denominated Ghatee Sepoys, or peons employed in the protection of Ghats, were stationed (with the exception of a few employed in the Mamlutdar and Mahalkurie's offices, and on other miscellaneous duties) in different parts of the talooka, and each individual in charge of four or more Shetsundees at such stations. As many of these stations, as per margin, as the nature of the country rendered necessary, have been retained; the rest, being unnecessary, have been discontinued. I have thought it necessary, at the same time, to do away with the practice of leaving a single Ghatee peon in charge of the men at these stations. These peons, by being associated with the men whose conduct they are appointed to watch and control, lose their influence over them, and become unfit to exercise efficient supervision: I have, therefore, selected the Duffedar (who, owing to a paucity of Duffedars in the talookas, has also been placed in charge of 29 villages,) and 6 peons from this body, and have ordered them—these instructions being written down and placed in the hands of the Duffedar— to be constantly on the move, proceeding from station to station, and visiting them at frequent and uncertain hours. These posts are all comprised within a circle of about 24 miles, and may be visited at least once in 24 hours by some of the above party, who have been ordered to divide themselves into two or three bodies, as circumstances might render necessary. They are able-bodied and intelligent, and have no connections in the country, which I think an advantage. The pay of a Ghatee Sepoy, however, is only Rs. 2 per mensem, but by the above arrangement 14 men are made available for reduction, which may be taken advantage of to give effect to the instructions conveyed in Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter No. 4657, dated 28th November 1848, that none of the stipendiary Police should receive a less sum monthly than Rs. 4.

1 Duffedar; 20 Peons.

1 Kunvee Ghat	5
2 Muthkophill	3
3 Hunmunhuttee	5
4 Wudkunkerree	4
5 Waskot	6
6 Muttee Dangur	2
7 At a Chowkee on the road from Waskot to Padshapoor	2
8 Kokulmeeree Ghaut	2
9 At the Chowkee on the boundary of the Village of Gumkop and Tarial	4

12. The time occupied in completing the reform of the Police of this talooka has not been sufficiently long to enable me to express any opinion of the results of the changes that have been introduced. It may not be uninteresting, however, to show what was the amount of crime in the present year, during the period previous to the commencement of the reform, and to annex a

comparative statement with 1848, for the time during which the reorganization was being effected :—

	Murders.	Burglaries.	Miscellaneous.
1849, from January 1st to August 13th.....	1	17	35
1849, from August 14th to September 30th	..	..	5
1848, from August 14th to September 30th	..	1	12

13. Of the five cases recorded in the last column of the statement, one is said to be a robbery of two slates, of the value of 8 annas, from the Government Vernacular School at Sumpgaum. These were found on search in a school lately established there by a private individual, but from the facts which transpired in evidence, the charge of robbery would seem to have been preferred with the view of putting an end to the competition which the school in question was calculated to lead to. The remaining four cases are petty thefts, one of the value of 2 pies, two of Rs. 3 each, and the fourth of Rs. 3-12-0, in which the articles stolen have been recovered, and the culprits punished.

14. I beg to enclose Statement No. 1, showing in aggregate sums in
Rs. 24,920-1-6. columns No. 1, 2, 3, 4, respectively, the present emoluments of
Rs. 2,880-1 4. the Shetsundees of the Government villages, the sums prospectively available by reduction, as casualties take place in the pay of those who are paid in excess of the scale proposed
Rs. 9,261-0-2 in the Progress Reports, the value of the holdings of the Shet-
Rs. 1,795-3-11 sundees available for reduction, and the amount which it will be necessary to add to the pay of those who are now paid below the proposed scale. The present proposed increase, you will observe, amounts to Rs. 1,795-3-11, while the sums prospectively available are Rs. 12,141-1-6, and now available from vacancies, as per Statement No. 2, Rs. 91-12-4, making a total of Rs. 12,232-13-10, and leaving an excess of Rs. 10,437-9-10 of the Enam villages. As will appear from the same Statement, the present proposed increase is Rs. 3-1-3, the sums prospectively available Rs. 349-12-5, leaving excess Rs. 346-11-2.

15. I beg to enclose Statement No. 3, showing the amount of the Patelkee wuttun of the villages in the Sumpgaum talooka, the pay of the Police Patels previous to reorganization, and that now fixed. The emoluments of Police Patels named in the margin, owing to the smallness of their wuttuns, is inadequate, and ought to be increased to the extent specified opposite to each, to effect which I would beg that measures may be adopted.

	Present Pay.			Ought to be.		
Somulhuttee .... Rs.	9	11	5	24	0	0
Kuldoor ..... „	10	2	3	24	0	0
Mullapoor ..... „	4	11	9	24	0	0
Gujbunhall ..... „	13	7	5	24	0	0
Aojunhuttee .... „	14	12	0	18	0	0
Shidapoor ..... „	15	10	6	24	0	0
Heeremelee..... „	13	8	0	20	0	0
Sowutgee ..... „	18	13	3	24	0	0
Lingdullee ..... „	12	6	1	18	0	0
Chickhellekuttee.. „	10	0	0	20	0	0
Kuddusgutte .... „	12	12	3	18	0	0
Kolebagee ..... „	16	4	0	24	0	0
Chicknunduhullee.. „	1	8	0	20	0	0

16. With the view of adopting a uniform and systematic arrangement in the working out of the present reform in the remaining talookas of the Belgaum division, and with the view, also, of ascertaining how far I might be borne out in the supposition expressed in my last general report, that my future progress was calculated to develope results more satisfactory than those which the above report exhibited with regard to the number of Shetsundees that might be made available for reduction, for the purpose of doing away with the present unequal distribution, and gradually equalizing throughout the talookas, with commensurate emolument, the number of men employed as Police, I thought it necessary to call for returns from the different Mamlutdars of the population of their respective talookas, of the number of Shetsundees in each, and of the value of their holdings. These, as shown in Statement No. 4, amount in Government villages in the aggregate, to population 518,412, Shetsundees 6,970, and value of holdings Rs. 1,21,110-8-2; and in Enam villages to population 163,554, Shetsundees 3,413, and value of holdings Rs. 41,535-11-7.

17. In carrying out the reorganization in the Sumpgaum Talooka, the number of Police which I have thought it necessary to fix has been in the average of one Policeman to 120 population, a proportion, though much in excess of the Police to population at the Presidency and at Poona, cannot, I am humbly of opinion, compatibly with perfect safety be fixed at a smaller number. In cities and towns, the proximity of stations to each other affords facilities for the call to aid, as circumstances may render necessary, which single Police stations in villages do not posses, and hence the necessity for a larger ratio.

18. According to the above proportion, it will be necessary to employ as Police in the Government villages of the remaining talookas about 4,320 Shetsundees. The pay of one-fourth of this number may be calculated at Rs. 24 per annum; of one-fourth more, at Rs. 21 per annum, and of the remaining half, at Rs. 18 per annum. These items severally amount Rs. 25,920, Rs. 22,680, and Rs. 38,880. For general duty it will be necessary to set apart one Shetsundee to about 400 population (there being besides Tulwars and Kolkars to most villages), viz. 1,296, whose pay, at an average of Rs. 12 per annum, may be stated at Rs. 15,552. These totals, being deducted from the value of the holdings exhibited in Statement No. 3, under the head of Government villages viz. Rs. 1,21,110-8-2, leave a balance of Rs. 18,078-8-2. This sum, with the excess in Government villages shown in the 10th para. of this report, of Rs. 10,437-9-11, amounts to Rs. 28,516-2-1. From this amount deduct Rs. 1,807-8-7, the deficiency stated in the 24th para. of last general report, which it will be necessary to make up to the Shetsundees employed as Police in the Chickodee Talooka, leaves a saving of Rs. 26,708-9-6 per annum.

19. In the Enam villages it will be necessary to employ as Police about 1,363 Shetsundees, and on general duty about 409. Their emoluments, in t proportion stated above, amount to Rs. 32,529; this amount being deduc from the value of the holdings, *i.e.* Rs. 41,535-11-7, exhibited in Statem No. 3, under the head of Enam villages, leaves a balance of Rs. 9,006-11-7. T

sum, with the excess, Rs. 346-11-2, shown on the 10th para. of this report, and of Rs. 1,398-11-0, shown in the 25th para. of last report, amounts to Rs. 10,751-7-8.

20. In the 22nd para. of my last report, in proposing an assignment of additional lands to the Shetsundees, whose emoluments appeared to be below the proposed scale, I suggested, in consequence of a general complaint throughout the Chikodee Talooka, that the lands they held did not yield the sums represented as their rental value; that the holdings of each should be carefully ascertained, in order that the amount of emolument which it was intended they should receive should be *bonâ fide* secured to them. This investigation, it is not improbable, would show a deficiency which it will be necessary to make up, but on the other hand, the discovery of excesses, too, beyond the present represented rental value in the holdings of many, may safely be calculated upon, which, if they do not fully counterbalance the deficiencies, are not likely, I am of opinion, to fall so far short as to cause any great absorption of the excesses shown in the preceding two paras.

21. The above details, which may be looked upon as a close approximation to what are likely to be the results, may be deemed satisfactory, inasmuch as they hold out a very fair prospect of the fulfilment of the instructions of Government, conveyed in the 8th para. of Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter, No. 4,657, of 28th November 1848, to the effect, that the changes contemplated should be carried out without requiring any aid from the public resources of the state.

22. With regard to Enam villages, it may be observed, that the Enamdars' interest is limited to the recovery of the revenue; they are not bound to employ new hands to ensure the efficiency of the Police of their villages, nor to increase the pay of those so employed, who are underpaid. Some, indeed, have acceded to the requisition made on them for the employment of fresh hands; others, again, are deferring compliance with promises not likely to be fulfilled without stringent instructions, while in one instance the right to be called upon has been questioned, with the exception of the Neepaneekurs and the Wuntmooreekur; the rest, I believe, have not yet increased the pay of the underpaid men, though repeatedly urged by the Mamlutdar to give effect to your instructions; under these circumstances, I would beg to propose whether it may not be suggested to Government, that the Shetsundees of the Enam villages should be treated on the same footing as those of the Khalsat villages, by assigning lands to those whose holdings are below the proposed scale in the adjoining Government villages. The large surplus that will in time escheat to Government renders this measure the more desirable.

23. Before concluding this report, I beg to bring to your notice the existence amongst the Shetsundees of a very objectionable practice. Two, three, four, and in some instances more members of a family, divide among themselves land which should be held by one individual, and perform service for one year each in rotation. It is not necessary to add, that to tolerate this practice would be to perpetuate the system of inefficiency which it is so desirable should have an end. The pay of the Shetsundees may be adequately increased, but the divisions in question will tend to keep up the want, and its attendant

temptations, arising from inadequate means of subsistence. The unlikelihood, moreover, of a person who had been for two, three, or more years engaged in the cultivation of lands, being able, when it comes to his turn, efficiently to discharge Police duties, is not the least of the evils to which such a practice is open; the parties interested urge the usages of the country in their favour, but such usage is untenable under the Hindoo law, which does not provide for the sharing among the copartners of service lands. Under these circumstances, I have thought it necessary strictly to interdict any division in future of Shetsundee lands, and with regard to those which now exist, I would beg to propose, that I may be permitted to direct the transfer of the alienated portions to the eldest son, or other nearest of kin relation of the last sole incumbent, who alone should be allowed to serve.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

Belgaum, 12th October 1849.

(True copy)
(Signed) H. REEVES,
Magistrate.

No. 6.

No. 5407 of 1849.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the MAGISTRATE OF BELGAUM.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 9th and 17th ultimo, Nos. 358 and 372, with accompaniments, on the subject of the reorganization of the village Police in the Chickodee and Sumpgaum Talookas.

2. In reply, I am desired to state, that the reports on this subject are considered to be, upon the whole, satisfactory and creditable to Mr. Forjett; I am also to add that the general system introduced into the two talookas which have already been settled is approved of by Government.

3. His Lordship in Council will not enter into a detailed consideration of the advantages and defects of the measure now in progress till he has been favored with the opinion of the Judges of the Sudder Adawlut, for whose consideration these reports have been submitted by you. But there are some points which require to be noticed without delay. These are—

1*st*. The nature of the duties which Mr. Forjett has been imposing on the Shetsundees.

2*nd*. The manner in which he has attempted to provide the deficiency of Shetsundees in some villages, from the superabundant number of these servants to be found in others.

3*rd*. The rule which should be followed in regulating cases of similar local deficiency and excess.

4. In regard to the Police duties to be exacted from the Shetsundees, Government observe that, as a general rule, they are required to be present in the Chowrees of their respective villages from six in the evening till daylight the next morning. Now although it has been provided that they be not called upon to perform any other duties, a rule like the above, it is believed, never can be generally or permanently enforced. On these points the Right Honorable the Governor in Council concurs entirely in the opinion expressed by you in the 16th para. of your letter, handing up the report of the settlement carried out in the Sumpgaum Talooka. Duties which are in their nature too severe, become a dead letter; and no system of discipline will be found sufficient to prevent their falling into disuse. I am therefore instructed to request that you will have the goodness to direct Mr. Forjett forthwith to adopt measures for relaxing a rule of service which is too exacting to be tolerated.

5. The second point which requires notice is, that Mr. Forjett has apparently in some instances transferred for service in one village Shetsundees whose wuttuns are situated in another. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council, entirely concurring in the remarks contained in your letter to the Sudder Adawlut of the 17th ultimo, approves of your having prohibited this arrangement, and requests that you will have the goodness to report whether measures have been taken to ensure redress in cases where Mr. Forjett's settlement may have pressed with severity on individuals of this class.

6. The rule to be followed in regulating the deficiency and excess of Shetsundees in the several villages is prescribed in general terms in the Government letter to the Sudder Adawlut of the 28th November 1848, No. 4657.

7. In consideration, however, of the great importance of effecting a permanent reduction in the annual cost to Government of this immense militia, of its more judicious allocation as an arm of the Police, and of making provision for its adequate remuneration when so employed, I am instructed to take this opportunity of explaining more particularly the opinions entertained by Government upon the Shetsundee tenure, and to define precisely the extent to which Government is disposed to sanction interference with the present practice in regard to it.

8. The voluminous correspondence on the records of Government, in elucidation of the nature of this tenure, a compendium of which was forwarded to you through the Sudder Adawlut, on the 22nd December 1848, goes to establish the correctness of the description of this class of public servants given by Mr. Hart and Captain Wingate in their joint Report to the Collector of Dharwar, dated the 25th October 1846, No. 3, viz. that they are a kind of irregular troops entertained by former Governments, to preserve the peace of the country, and paid in land instead of money.

9. *They are clearly not Wuttundars, nor are they so to be regarded.* Indeed the researches of the Enam Commissioner, Mr. Hart, have enabled him to state positively in a report submitted to Government by Mr. Goldsmid, the Acting Collector of Dharwar, in 1844, that up to the close of the last Government the Sursoubedars had the power of *transferring the Shetsundees from district to district;* and, when there were more than were required in the province, of *reducing their number, and resuming the lands of those reduced.*

10. Perhaps it would be more difficult to instance examples of the adoption of the latter course than of the former. That as a general rule they were treated as hereditary servants, although not so considered of right, Government entertains little doubt, agreeing entirely in the opinion expressed on this subject by Mr. Townsend, the Revenue Commissioner, that under a Native State most services are hereditary, *especially those "which are remunerated by land."* But His Lordship in Council also concurs with that gentleman in opinion, that their hereditary tenure "contained in it no obligation on the *State for its perpetual continuance.*" "Granting this view to be correct, it is probable that cases of the extinction of the Shetsundee tenures, by orders of the Native Governments *during the lifetime of the occupants,* must have been exceptional. The supposition is not opposed to the Revenue Commis-

sioner's conclusions, that Shetsundees may be reduced in number to a sufficient force gradually as deaths occur, and that on the death of the present incumbents, their successors may be transferred to other districts."

11. His Lordship in Council not only believes with Mr. Townsend that this measure is legitimate, practicable, and expedient, and will afford funds whence to remunerate other village servants, but considers that there would be nothing harsh or unwarranted in transferring the Shetsundees, where too numerous, to villages and districts where their numbers were deficient, or where there were none, *resuming their present holdings, and giving liberal equivalent in lands,* in the districts to which they may be attached.

12. As it is questionable, however, whether under existing regulations this could be done contrary to the will of such of the occupants of Shetsundee holdings as have held their lands for long periods, His Lordship in Council desires that the above opinion may not be made the basis of a rule for regulating your proceedings. In other respects, the subject is one requiring the most judicious and cautious treatment, and I am therefore directed to request that you will refrain from acting in any instance on this resolution, except with the consent of the parties, or until you have reported the case to Government, and your proposed course of proceeding has been specially approved and sanctioned.

13. Adverting to the 12th para. of Mr. Inverarity's letter to the Sudder Adawlut, of the 31st July last, I am directed to state, that His Lordship in Council agrees in opinion with that gentleman, that the resumption of superfluous Shetsundee holdings on the death of incumbents should be left "to the discretion of the Magistrate, to act as circumstances may require in each case, the object being by *every fair, honest, and practicable means, to reduce the strength of these servants to the standard required* by the wants of the country in which they serve."

14. The progress attained in the reformation of the Shetsundee Police, upon this principle, should be reported to Government at the close of each year.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 26th December 1849.

No. 7.

No. 250 of 1852.

To the Registrar of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut,

Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward copy of a report, dated 30th December 1851, received after final correction on the 29th instant, from Mr. Forjett, on the result of the Police organization of the Belgaum Magistracy, and at the same time to submit a review of what has been already effected, and a statement of what remains to be done to render their organization altogether effective.

2. The great object in view has been the improvement of the native system of Village Police, by supplying defects, removing superfluities, and preserving efficient superintendence.

3. The points which specially required attention in carrying out this reform were stated in Mr. Lumsden's letter to your address, No. 4657, dated 28th November 1848, to be—

I. The equalization of pay, and consequent diminution of the number of Stipendiary Police, none of whom should receive a less sum monthly than four Rupees.

II. The choice and organization of a body of Inspectors from the higher classes of Police Peons.

III. The Police organization of the Shetsundees, in which the chief points for attention seemed to be—

1*st*. The placing them under an efficient superintendence.

2*nd*. The defining and exacting from them the duties which they were bound to perform under the Native Government.

3*rd*. The defining their relations with the Police authorities, and with the Stipendiary Police.

4*th*. Their more equal distribution among the villages, and, where practicable, increased remuneration.

4. The mode adopted in carrying out these views, will be found described in the Acting Magistrate's letter, No. 150, dated 23rd May 1849. It is there stated that as a preliminary to any general system, it was necessary to instil efficiency into the existing Village Police, and for this purpose Mr. Forjett personally visits every town and village in conjunction with the principal inhabitants and village authorities; musters and inspects the Shetsundees and

other denominations of Village Police; obtains substitutes for the old and unfit; assigns them specific rounds of duty, either in the village or at the khinds, and passes within its limits; and by this means makes such arrangements as will tend to prevent crime, or to render certain the detection of its perpetrators. He also ascertains and reports the receipts and emoluments of the different members of the Village Police, from the Patel downwards, in order that where these are inadequate, means may be adopted for their augmentation. In each town or village Mr. Forjett appoints guards and patroles, and apportions to each its particular charge. In large towns, which require three or four or more patroles, a chief patrole is appointed, for the purpose of general superintendence, and in every instance the control of the whole is vested in the Police Patel, who, as well as the Shetsundees composing the various patroles, is minutely instructed in the duties required of them. In every step of the proceedings, the co-operation of the respectable portion of the people is secured; the arrangements made for the conduct of the Police duties in each town or village are written down, and a clause inserted, that should any relaxation of vigilance be observed in the Police by any inhabitant, he is immediately to report the circumstance, with a view to correction. These written arrangements exhibit a list of the Shetsundees of the place, their arms, the divisions of the town, and the situations of the different guards, the number of men attached to each, the extent of charge of each guard, the manner in which the duties of patrole and guard are to be performed, &c. &c. and a copy of them is posted in the Chowree or principal Chowkee of the village, so as to be patent to all.

5. The Village Police being in due working order, provision is made for the connecting link between it and the District Police Officer, by the appointment of an active, intelligent, and trustworthy man from the Stipendiary Police, to whose circle of duty is allotted a stated number of villages, to which visits are paid by him at frequent and uncertain times, and of the occurrences in which reports are made by him to a Carcoon, specially nominated for the sole duty of exercising general supervision over the Police in subordination to the District Police Officer.

6. The great principle of action adopted for the prevention and detection of crime in these village arrangements is, as reported in the Acting Magistrate's letter, No. 259, dated 31st July 1849, to close unnecessary openings, and to station round the village a chain of guards, from which patroles are thrown inwards, so that an alarm being given, these, with the chief patrole stationed at the Chowree, can immediately take up the pursuit, while the guards at the various outlets are on the alert to intercept fugitive offenders, and to prevent the ingress of suspicious characters.

7. The duties required of Police Shetsundees as are follows:—

I. As a general rule, Police Shetsundees are required to be in attendance at their Chowkees from dusk in the evening, till daybreak the following morning.

II. Where, from the smallness of the village, one Police Shetsundee has been nominated for the duty, he and the Police Patel are required to be in attendance at the Chowkee during the night.

III. Where two Police Shetsundees have been appointed, they and the Police Patel are required to be in attendance at the Chowkee, and each goes the rounds once during the night.

IV. Where three Police Shetsundees are appointed, each man remains on the alert at the Chowkee for three successive hours, and on being relieved, takes a turn through the village to see that all is right.

V. Where four, five, or six Shetsundees are appointed, one man is on the alert at the Chowkee for three successive hours, while another performs patrole duty.

VI. Whereas in Belgaum and other large towns there are seven or nine Police Shetsundees to a guard, one stands sentry at the Chowkee, and one or two men, according to circumstances, are posted at commanding points within their respective divisions, the patrole duties being performed by the Police stationed at the principal Chowkee of the town.

VII. As a general rule, Police Patels are required to go the rounds at uncertain hours of the night, to see that all are in attendance or on the alert.

VIII. Where the number of Police Shetsundees to a Chowkee is under four, they are exempted from day duty. When the number is four, five, or six, one man is present in the Chowkee during the day, and when the number to each guard is greater, two men remain in the Chowkee during the same period.

IX. At remote passes, of which there are fifty-four in this Magistracy, there are posted Police Shetsundees, varying in number from three to five: the smaller guard being on duty only during the day at such passes as are avoided at night, and the larger guard giving two men for day duty, and three men for night duty at passes on highways which are frequented by the public at all times. The duties required of them are those required of village guards of similar numerical strength.

X. Each Police Shetsundee in turn remains at home, and is exempted from duty each sixth night.

8. The remuneration of Shetsundees is, as a general rule, derived from and of the assessed value of Rs. 18 in small villages, Rs. 21 in middle-sized, and Rs. 24 in large villages, sums which have been found quite adequate for all purposes except in the towns of Belgaum and Gokak, where a higher scale has been proposed. Mr. Reeves, however, on the 7th November 1849, objected to these rates as being very insufficient, and on the 14th February 1850 objected also to the duties described in the foregoing para. as being too severe. These objections were successfully met by Mr. Forjett in his reply of the 14th March following, and the scale of remuneration and routine of duties were not interfered with, the exemption from duty on the sixth night being, at Mr. Forjett's suggestion, superseded by Mr. Reeves.

9. Objections were also made by the Magistrate to the transfer of Shetsundees from villages where their services were superfluous, to villages within the talooka where they were required; but Mr. Reeves' opinion on this point was corrected, on perusal of a report from the Inam Commissioner, as intimated

in his letter to Government, No. 407, dated 22nd December 1849, para. 3. However desirable it may be to allot to transferred Shetsundees lands in those villages in which they are called upon to serve, their disinclination to resign their original lands for new assignments prevents the adoption of the measure at the present stage of proceedings. Hereafter, on the occurrence of casualties, the necessity of holding lands where service is given can be insisted on, under penalty in case of refusal of supercession by a new nomination.

10. The effect of the organization upon crime may be gathered from Mr. Forjett's 3rd and 8th paras., and on the whole may be considered satisfactory, inasmuch as is therein shown a diminution of crime and a proportionately greater number of detections and of recoveries of stolen property. In the subjoined Statement of Dacoities south of the Nurbadda, kindly furnished by Captain Hervey, Assistant General Superintendent for the suppression of that crime, to which I have added the gang robberies by night with violence, committed in this Magistracy during 1851, Belgaum contrasts favorably with other zillahs. I by no means claim the credit of this happy result for the Rural Police, because I am well aware that very much is due to the exertions of Captain Hervey and his department, who rid the country of professional robbers ; but the diminution of robberies by non-professionals, of minor thefts, and of miscellaneous offences, noticed in Mr. Forjett's 7th para., in the suppression of which Captain Hervey takes no part, may fairly be attributed to the Shetsundee reformation.

Number of Dacoities that have been committed in

	Dharwar.	Belgaum.	Sholapore.	Rutnagherry.	Tanna.	Poona.	Ahmednuggur.	Nassick.	Khandesh.	Sattara.
1846....	36	9	87	25	67	20	21	14	55	No return.
1847....	22	11	56	6	35	20	6	10	7	Do.
1848....	29	13	37	15	27	18	8	3	9	31
1849 ...	34	9	31	4	23	7	2	1	13	17
1850....	37	..	25	9	19	5	5	2	18	5
1851....	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

11. Simultaneously with the dispositions for Police purposes, arrangements were made for the efficient discharge of the revenue and miscellaneous duties connected with village management, by the nomination of Shetsundees (under which denomination are included Kolkurs, Natekurs, Tulwars, Korboos,) receiving remuneration in land of the assessed annual value of Rupees 12, 14, and 16, according to the size of the village and the extent of duty required. This consists in attendance upon the Village Revenue authorities, in carrying notices to Ryots when instalments of revenue fall due, in carrying the Koolkurnee's records when in the field, in accompanying the remittance to the talooka treasury, and in doing generally whatever miscellaneous duty may be called for in connection with the revenue business of the village.

12. The financial and other results of this organization, after its completion on Mr. Forjett's proposition, will be as shown in the subjoined Statement.

Talookas.	Number of Shetsundees at commencement of the Organization.		Assessed Value of their Service Lands.						Number of Shetsundees proposed for Police Duty.		Assessed Value of their proposed Service Lands.					
	1		2						3		4					
	Khalsat.	Enam.	Khalsat.			Enam.			Khalsat.	Enam.	Khalsat.			Enam.		
			Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*			*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Chickodee	1,566	955	23,452	10	4	18,643	0	6	1,050	660	21,984	0	0	14,986	0	0
Sumpgaum	1,538	37	25,014	7	1	723	9	2	628	16	12,357	0	0	288	0	0
Pursghur.....	1,399	562	26,614	0	5	8,626	4	11	537	147	10,554	0	0	2,919	0	0
Beedee.....	759	232	11,408	4	0	2,357	6	3	780	137	15,384	0	0	2,580	0	0
Gokak	481	323	6,190	7	1	6,137	7	5	344	166	7,197	12	0	3,423	0	0
Badamee.....	1,383	896	30,590	7	2	11,856	9	6	764	330	16,024	0	0	6,444	0	0
Hoongoond	878	324	18,967	1	0	7,251	5	3	525	157	10,728	0	0	3,132	0	0
Bagulcote	770	235	11,767	0	11	3,073	10	2	516	129	10,605	0	0	2,484	0	0
Padshapoor.....	746	374	13,633	5	5	4,127	7	9	542	178	14,335	8	9	3,414	0	0
Uthnee	560	288	6,901	12	11	4,033	11	0	340	164	7,377	1	0	3,687	0	0
Tagaum	142	4	3,126	15	4	62	8	0	123	2	2,953	15	6	48	0	0
Total....	10,222	4,230	177,666	7	8	66,892	15	11	6,149	2,086	129,510	5	3	43,405	0	0
Aggregate of Khalsat and Enam....	14,452		24,455,9–7–7						8,235		1,72,915–5–3					

Number of Shetsundees proposed for Revenue and Miscellaneous Duties.		Assessed Value of their proposed Service Lands.						Decrease effected by proposed arrangements.		Surplus of present over proposed Allowances constituting a Saving effected by proposed arrangements.						Deficiency of present as compared with proposed Allowances to be made good to Shetsundees now receiving less than proposed scale of Remuneration.					
5		6						7		8						9					
Khalsat.	Enam.	Khalsat.			Enam.			Khalsat.	Enam.	Khalsat.			Enam.			Khalsat.			Enam.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*			*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
321	163	4,480	14	0	2,160	3	5	195	132	....	..	..	1,496	13	1	3,012	3	5	....	..	..
190	8	2,468	0	0	96	0	0	720	13	10,189	7	1	339	9	2	....	..	..	....	..	..
153	42	2,024	0	0	555	4	0	709	373	14,036	0	6	5,152	0	11	....	..	..	....	..	..
169	33	2,028	0	0	396	0	0	62	101	....	..	..	....	..	..	6,003	12	0	618	9	9
105	58	1,265	13	11	714	2	1	47	105	....	..	..	2,000	5	4	2,283	2	10	....	..	..
228	108	2,980	0	0	1,380	0	0	391	458	11,576	7	2	4,032	9	6	....	..	..	...	..	..
152	55	2,015	13	0	728	2	10	201	112	6,223	4	0	3,391	2	5	....	..	..	....	..	..
132	44	171	0	0	560	12	0	122	62	....	..	..	28	14	2	555	15	1	....	..	..
136	32	2,215	9	0	406	0	0	68	164	....	..	..	307	7	9	2,917	12	4	....	..	..
109	48	1,584	0	0	722	0	0	111	76	....	..	..	....	..	..	2,059	4	1	375	5	0
70	2	1,116	0	0	32	0	0	17	..	....	..	..	....	..	..	943	0	2	17	8	0
1,765	593	23,896	1	11	7,750	8	4	2,643	1,596	42,025	2	8	16,748	14	4	17,765	2	2	1,011	6	9
2,358		31,646-10-3						4,239		58,774-1- 0 18,776-8-11						18,776-8-11					
Net saving effected by proposed arrangements..										39,997-8- 1											

13. It here appears that of 14,452 Shetsundees receiving emoluments of the value of Rs. 2,44,559-7-7, the complement proposed for Police duty is 8,235 men, with emoluments valued at Rs. 1,72,915-5-3 ; and that proposed for revenue and miscellaneous duties 2,358 men, with emoluments of the value of Rs. 31,646-10-3; 4,239 men are left for reduction, and an annual saving is effected of Rs. 39,997-8-1.

14. To bring about this consummation, however, is a work of time, because it has not been thought advisable all at once to deprive so large a number of men with their families of their accustomed means of livelihood. It has been considered more politic and humane to defer reductions of present allowances and resumptions of superfluous holdings until lapses occur, either by the dismissal or death of incumbents.

15. Reduction of present allowances to the prescribed standard will yield a sum of Rs. 32,724-1-10¼, and the resumption of superfluous holdings will give a saving of Rs. 76,305-15-7¾ ; but against the aggregate of Rs. 1,09,028-13-6 must be placed the requirements of Shetsundees who are underpaid, to the extent of Rs. 51,385-5-5, and of additional Shetsundees, for places where deficiencies exist, to the extent of Rs. 17,646. The total sum thus required for the equalization of allowances and for efficiency of distribution is Rs. 69,031-5-5, and the deduction of this sum from the available saving above shown, gives a net annual saving of Rs. 39,997-8-1, as already stated.

16. Enamdars having in the year 1848-49 in their villages of Boogtee, Aloor, Arjoonwar, Sheergopeh, Bhosee, Aluknoor, and Burkoondree, of the Chickodee Talooka, made up the deficiencies of emolument to their underpaid Shetsundees by the assignment of lands valued at Rs. 310-12-3, the requirements of underpaid Shetsundees are now reduced to Rs. 51,074-9-2, and the sum of Rs. 2,193 has been applied from lapses, to give additional men in 31 Government villages of Beedee, Gokak, Hoongoond, and Bagulkote, and in certain Enam villages of the Chickodee district, so that the present requirements for additional Shetsundees amount to Rs. 15,453.

17. The following tabular Statement shows in detail the additional men required and entertained in each talooka up to the present date :—

Statement of additional Shetsundees

Talookas.	Required for Police Duty.				Required for General Duty.				Entertained for Police Duty.				Entertained for General Duty.				Remaining to be entertained to make up the Complement.											
																	Police Duty.						General Duty.					
	In Govt. Villages.		In Enam Villages.		In Govt. Villages.		In Enam Villages.		In Govt. Villages.		In Enam Villages.		In Govt. Villages.		In Enam Villages.		Government.				Enam.		Government.				Enam.	
	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9						10					
	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.	Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.			Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.			Number of Shetsundees.	Allowances.		
																		Rs. *a.* *p.*				*Rs.* *a.* *p.*		*Rs.* *a.* *p.*				*Rs.* *a.* *p.*	
1. Chickodee....	..	..	32	768	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	288	..	..	..	..	..	.....			20	480 0 0	..	.....		..	.....		
2. Sumpgaum....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....			..	.....	..	.....		..	.....		
3. Pursghur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....			..	.....	..	.....		..	.....		
4. Beedee	211	3,846	16	288	39	468	1	12	4	72	..	..	..	..	..	..	207	3,774 0 0			16	288 0 0	39	468 0 0		1	12 0 0		
5. Gokak	50	1,350	6	144	10	120	..	..	45	1,083	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	267 0 0			6	144 0 0	10	120 0 0		..	.....		
6. Badamee	49	1,116	..	..	2	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	1,116 0 0			..	.....	2	24 0 0		..	.....		
7. Hoongoond ..	53	1,188	4	72	5	66	2	24	18	354	..	..	2	24	..	..	35	834 0 0			4	72 0 0	3	42 0 0		2	24 0 0		
8. Bagulkote....	131	3,144	6	108	6	72	..	..	18	336	..	..	3	36	..	..	113	2,808 0 0			6	108 0 0	3	36 0 0		..	.....		
9. Padshapoor...	49	1,104	28	525	3	44	5	64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	1,104 0 0			28	525 0 0	3	44 0 0		5	64 0 0		
10. Uthnee.....	47	990	20	459	7	106	1	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	990 0 0			20	459 0 0	7	106 0 0		1	16 0 0		
11. Tasgaum	55	1,320	..	..	13	208	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	1,320 0 0			..	.....	13	208 0 0		..	.....		
Total....	645	14,058	112	2,364	85	1,108	9	116	85	1,845	12	288	5	60	..	..	560	12,213 0 0			100	2,076 0 0	80	1,048 0 0		9	116 0 0		

18. The total credits from casualties and dismissals up to the 30th April 1852, amounts to Rs. 10,042-6-3, so that deducting the sum of Rs. 2,193 already expended by my predecessor, in providing the additional men noted in the 16th para., there still remains for a like purpose a balance of Rs. 7,849-6-3. Authority was given by Mr. Reeves for the due application of this surplus, but the withdrawal of Mr. Forjett's superintendence, apparent from his letter of the 21st January last (copy of which is annexed), seems to have been in no way recompensed by increased activity on the part of District Police Officers, and Mr. Reeves' wishes have remained unaccomplished.

19. Where additional men have been engaged, the error has been committed of employing others than Shetsundees, and in Gokak cash payments have been made by order of my predecessor; but have been checked by the Civil Auditor for want of specific authority. I say an error has been committed in selecting for employment others than Shetsundees, because I am of opinion that where numbers of this class have been ordered for reduction, it seems but fair that the option of obtaining permanency of employment should first have been offered to them. Now Mr. Forjett has been directed in every instance to give such men the preference.

20. It is very possible that reluctance to quit their villages may prevent the Shetsundees' acceptance of offered service elsewhere; but it is also probable that the knowledge of their having only a life-interest in their present holdings may induce many for the sake of their families to transfer their services to where they are required, and if only one out of six of those ordered to reduction consent to be so transferred, the required complement, to the extent of 749 men, with an allowance of Rs. 15,453, will be at once obtained. The transfer, while it secured the Shetsundee a comparatively permanent employment, would give to Government an immediate reversion of his original and superfluous holding.

21. But a Shetsundee's reduction or discharge from employment need not necessarily deprive him of the occupancy of the particular land he has long held. He may revert to the condition of a rent-paying ryot, continuing in possession of his field at its rated assessment, and Mr. Forjett's attention has been drawn to this point, in order that where Shetsundees prefer to profferred employment the retention of their fields on terms of paying the assessment on the same, arrangements may be made for giving effect to their wishes, by bringing to account their lands, by which means a further and immediate provision is made for the employment of Shetsundees in places where their services are required.

Chickodee	968
Sumpgaum	430
Pursghur	500
Beedee	593
Gokak	418
Badamee	845
Hoongoond	421
Bagulcote	464
Padshapoor	112
Uthnee	453
Tasgaum	51
	5,255

22. The Shetsundees who are now underpaid number 5,255 men, and the deficiencies in their allowances aggregate the sum of Rs. 51,385-5-5; as already stated in the 15th para.; my predecessor took no steps to supply these deficiencies, but in January last I distributed to the various Mamlutdars nominal rolls of such Shetsundees, and directed that they should enter in a column of the list, left blank for the purpose,

the land which was available, and which each individual consented to take, to make good deficiencies. Replies from all the talookas have not been received, but the information they may afford will hereafter be submitted for the orders of Government. In the majority of cases there will probably be an ample supply of waste land available for assignment to Shetsundees; and in this case Government will in no way feel the alienation. Where waste land is unattainable, arrangements can be proposed with reference to the circumstances of each case.

23. It must not be supposed that the strength of the Shetsundee body as now proposed is not subject to future alteration. At the outset of a novel undertaking, it was necessary to proceed with caution to avoid all cause of discontent or disgust; hereafter when efficiency is increased, numbers may be brought to a lower limit. The present proportion of Police to population, and of revenue Shetsundees to gross revenue, is given below; but I do not admit that such proportions constitute sound guides in practice, for I am quite sure that local circumstances and local considerations alone can determine what Police or Revenue establishment are necessary for particular localities:—

Talookas.	Population per Census of 1st Feb. 1852	Number of Police Shetsundees.	Proportion of Police to Population.	Gross Revenue for 1850-51.	Number of Revenue Shetsundees	Proportion of Revenue Shetsundees to Revenue.
				Rs. a. p.		
Chickodee	186,348	1,710	1 to 109	5,49,483 14 0	484	1 to Rs. 1,139
Sumpgaum ..	80,914	644	1 to 126	2,17,753 15 4	198	1 to „ 1,106
Pursghur	91,938	684	1 to 134	2,19,930 4 10	195	1 to „ 1,121
Beedee	135,598	917	1 to 124	2,04,997 7 8	202	1 to „ 1,014
Gokak	67,668	510	1 to 133	1,61,442 9 10	163	1 to „ 1,034
Badamee	116,488	1,094	1 to 106	2,24,736 14 4	336	1 to „ 1,009
Hoongoond ..	74,470	682	1 to 109	1,87,729 15 11	207	1 to „ 915
Bagulkote	72,869	645	1 to 113	1,59,351 2 9	176	1 to „ 1,167
Padshapoor ..	93,791	720	1 to 130	1,99,283 11 2	168	1 to „ 1,229
Uthnee	88,824	504	1 to 176	2,33,826 10 11	157	1 to „ 1,471
Tasgaum	38,974	125	1 to 312	1,17,961 4 1	72	1 to „ 1,693
		8,235			2,358	

24. My opinion on the question of the liability of Enamdars to provide an efficient Police for the villages was submitted in my letter No. 29, dated 23rd January last, to the address of Mr. Secretary Lumsden; and Mr. Reeves, in the 10th para. of his letter No. 510, dated 30th September 1851, appears to be of like opinion: for he there says that, however the title-deeds of Enamdars may run, it could not have been originally intended to deliver whole village communities into the keeping of these landholders, except under the condition of preserving the various establishments entrusted to them in a state of efficiency: and there can be no reasonable doubt that under the late Government they would have been obliged to supply all deficiencies. I anticipate not the slighest difficulty in arranging Enamdars to render effective the Police of their villages, they making good all deficiencies, and benefitting by the lapse of superfluous holdings within their respective estates. All that is required in such cases is for the Magistrate to see that efficient arrangements are made by the proprietors under his direction for the working and remuneration of their Police, any further interference being avoided as tending to excite feelings of distrust and dissatisfaction.

25. The immediate supervision of all Shetsundees is vested in the Patel of the village, to whom adequacy of remuneration is just as necessary as to his subordinate, the Shetsundee. In the majority of instances, this sufficiency of remuneration already exists, but where the Revenue Survey has reduced the assessment on Jodee Enams, so as to make it the interest of Patels to relinquish the lands they held on this tenure, in preference to paying the high quit-rent attached to them, and where other sources of remuneration do not exist, as well as in pauper cases, it is necessary to make provision for this class of officers. It is only in large towns or very extensive villages that revenue and Police duties need to be kept distinct. In all other cases, and especially where Wuttuns are small, these duties can with advantage be continued in the person of one individual. The subjoined table shows the number of Government villages in each talooka where Patels' Wuttuns are inadequate, and the extent of this inadequacy, which, however, can easily be remedied by accessions from the savings effected by the reduction of Shetsundees. This table likewise exhibits the extent of similar deficiencies in Enam villages, which, as already stated, can be rectified in communication with the proprietors:—

Talookas.	Number of Government Villages where Patels' Wuttuns are inadequate.	Deficiencies in Wuttuns to be made good.			Number of Enam Villages where Patels' Wuttuns are inadequate.	Deficiencies in Wuttuns to be made good.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*		*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Chickodee	11	70	8	2	9	193	5	3
Sumpgaum	19	162	1	5	1	3	0	0
Pursghur	25	334	15	9	8	143	15	.0
Beedee	91	940	13	10	31	479	11	1
Gokak	34	599	0	1	8	125	0	8
Badamee	94	1,658	4	3	26	431	15	11
Hoongoond	33	417	0	1	9	119	8	2
Bagulkote.....	56	655	7	2	25	488	5	0
Padshapoor	49	607	14	7	50	618	10	7
Uthnee	29	466	12	6	7	54	5	10
Tasgaum	2	5	6	4	..	....		
Total..	443	5,918	4	2	174	2,657	13	6

26. Over each circle of villages, inspectors of various grades, enumerated in the margin, are appointed from the stipendiary peons of the talooka, these being under the immediate supervision of a Karkoon named for the specific duty in each Mamlutdar's and Mahalkurrie's division. Such of these Karkoons as had been then appointed were, on the 7th February 1850, returned to their respective Cutcherries, and their duties transferred to Jemadars of Peons, for two reasons, which Mr. Reeves, in the 12th para. of his letter to the Judicial Commissioner, No. 53, dated 8th February 1851, deemed good and sufficient. "1st, The Karkoons

Talookas.	Duffedars.	Peons.
Chickodee	4	17
Sumpgaum	3	19
Pursghur	3	18
Beedee	3	21
Gokak	2	13
Badamee	4	19
Hoongoond	3	15
Bagulkote	3	13
Padshapoor	3	11
Uthnee	3	9
Tasgaum	2	7
Total....	33	162

employed were paid too low to keep them out of temptation to dishonesty and tyranny. 2nd, The exigencies of the Revenue Department are now such that they cannot be spared."

27. The first argument appears to me to operate with double force against the employment of the Jemadars, who, with half the pay of the Karkoons, had twice the duty assigned to them : for those had the supervision of the whole talooka, while each Karkoon's range was limited to the Mamlutdar's or Mahalkurrie's division of the same. The very extent of the charge thus assigned rendered an effective supervision almost impossible, but the inaptness and incompetency of aged Jemadars for work, which requires for its due execution considerable physical strength and energy, has compelled me again to have recourse to the services of young and active Karkoons.

28. That the exigencies of the Revenue Department can well spare Karkoons for the most important duty of Police may be seen at a glance from the subjoined table of duties required from the members of a talooka cutcherry :—

General supervision	1	Karkoon.
Department of accounts, returns, &c...	1	„
Preparation of cash account.....	1	„
Copyist	1	„
Police business	1	„
Revenue business	1	„
Post-office department	1	„
For miscellaneous duties in the district.	2	Karkoons.

Thus for nine Karkoons there are specific duties of an ordinary character that require daily attention, and in each Mamlutdar's cutcherry the number of them ranges from nine in Tasgaum to fifteen in Beedee. The subordinate Mahalkurrie's cutcherries require four Karkoons to perform the daily duties there, and when one is not available for Police supervision within the sub-division, the Mamlutdar's cutcherry can supply the deficiency.

29. Mr. Forjett's letter, dated 21st January last, noticed in the 18th para., and his letter dated the 25th ultimo (A and B), copies of which are annexed, show that after he had appointed guards to each village, nominated inspectors, and laid down rules for their guidance, he exercised no superintendence of the Executive Police of this Magistracy during the years 1850 and 1851. The result is seen in the absence of progress in regard to the arrangements necessary for ensuring adequacy of remuneration to underpaid Shetsundees, and for the entertainment of additional men where required, and in the general lack of supervision, whereby Shetsundees were in the habit of quitting their stations and villages at will, and without question, whenever inclination led them to prefer pleasure to duty. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the excellence of the principle now acted upon of revivifying the ancient system of Village Police, is observable in the diminution of crime in 1851 (Statement C, appended) as compared with 1848, the year previous to that in which Mr. Forjett commenced his reorganization.

30. The extent of what has been already done may, from the above, be described as limited to the apportioning of guards to villages and passes,

and to the nomination of inspectors. The providing of remuneration, which ought to have closely followed each appointment, and the nomination of additional men where requisite, still remain to be carried into effect. To these objects Mr. Forjett's attention is now directed, and in the course of a short time I hope to report satisfactory progress in the matter, notwithstanding the difficulties expressed by that officer in his 24th para., which, when fairly met, will in practice be found not to be over formidable.

31. Mr. Forjett, now Superintendent of Police and Deputy Magistrate, has been directed by me, in furtherance of the instructions conveyed in Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter to your address, No. 4657, dated 28th November 1848, to revise the talooka establishments of peons, with a view to their being rendered more efficient in the Police and other duties incident to them. Mr. Forjett's proposition, in the 29th and 30th paras. of his report now submitted for the supercession by Ghurkurees of the peons now in employ in the Padshapoor and Beedee Talookas is impracticable, simply because Ghurkurees, who are Wuttundars, will not exchange their guaranteed hereditary rights for a salaried service, the benefit of which is only personal, and because the acceptance of their services on other terms would not be attended with any advantage.

32. In conclusion, I have no hesitation in recording my opinion that, when in good working order, and with a good system of intercommunication, under Mr. Forjett's superintendence, the Village Police of Belgaum will be as effective as any body of rural Police in existence; and holding this opinion, I have, in transmitting to each of the Chiefs of the Southern Marhatta Country a draft of the system prepared by Mr. Forjett, recommended it strongly for adoption in their respective States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,
Magistrate.

Belgaum, Magistrate's Office, 30th June 1852.

No. 8.

To J. D. INVERARITY, Esquire,

Magistrate, Belgaum.

Sir,

1. The reorganization of the Police Force of the Belgaum Division of the Dharwar Zillah being completed, I beg to submit the following brief report on the results of that measure.

2. The reorganization was commenced on the 12th February 1849, and completed on the 26th September 1851; the period occupied has been two years, seven months, and fourteen days.

3. The well-known fact of the almost entire disappearance of gang robberies, attended with force, renders it unnecessary that any figured statement should be submitted in proof of that result, which, however, I would beg to state is as follows:—

Gang Robberies.

There occurred during the two years, seven months, and fourteen days anterior to reorganization	21
Subsequently, during the period the reform was being effected	3

	Rs.	*as.*	*p.*
Amount of property stolen during the period previous to reorganization	63,593	11	10
During reorganization	1,287	15	9
Amount recovered during former period	1,329	7	0
Ditto ditto during latter period	289	8	9

4. In the crime of murder there has been a decrease, but not to an extent to admit of its being characterised as gratifying.

5. There occurred, during the two years, seven months, and fourteen days previous to reorganization 55
Subsequently, during the period reform was being effected 33

6. Of the latter number, in 12 cases the endeavours of the Police to trace the perpetrators have proved unsuccessful. Of these, 9 cases however occurred anterior to the introduction of the reform in the talookas in which they took place. In the remaining cases, I am happy to say, the

guilty parties have been brought to justice. Of the number of murders which had previously taken place, there has been a failure of justice in 16 cases.

7. Of robberries of every description, the result, as to the number of cases and the amount of property stolen and recovered during the two periods will, I think, be deemed satisfactory. They are as follows :—

Cases.

There occurred during the two years, seven months, and fourteen days previous to reorganization	1788
During reorganization	1590

	Rs.	as.	p.
Amount of property stolen during the period previous to reorganization	80,557	11	10
During reorganization	72,467	2	10
Amount of recovery during the former period	14,764	10	4
Ditto ditto during the latter period	23,967	6	5

8. To the number of small cases of robbery comprised in the above abstract, Police Shetsundees, I am sorry to say, have added. The punishment provided by law, besides dismissal from the service, has been inflicted; but I would beg to remark that with only four exceptions, as would appear from the accompaniment No. 1, the men who so committed themselves were inadequately-remunerated Shetsundees. It is not unlikely, therefore, that the pressure of want, rather than moral turpitude, was the cause of crime.

9. With a well-organized and efficiently superintended rural Police, gang robberies must be of very rare occurrence, and the number of other crimes correspondingly small; but in the constitution of such a Police, adequacy of remuneration, it is unnecessary to add, is an element which cannot be substituted by any other.

10. Government too, in the instructions conveyed in Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter No. 4657, dated 28th November 1848, to the address of the Registrar to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, para. 7, have recorded the opinion that " *in every case where the Shetsundees employed as Police are found to be inadequately paid, steps should be immediately taken to rectify so serious an error.*"

11. In proceeding with the reorganization, therefore, bearing in mind the above injunction, every case of complaint of inadequate emolument was met by the assurance that it would be speedily increased to the amount fixed as the Police pay of the village.

12. Two and a half years have now elapsed since the Chickodee Talooka has been reorganized, but the augmentation which I had led the underpaid Police Shetsundees to expect would speedily be made to their emolument has not yet, I would beg to state, been made, nor has it been made to any belonging to the other talookas.

13. The reason assigned for the delay in Chickodee was the expectation of the early introduction of the Revenue Survey, and was considered by the Shetsundees a valid, though not a satisfactory cause ; which cause, however, does not apply to talookas in which the Revenue Survey rates have been for some time in operation. In Gokak, for instance, more than two years have elapsed since their introduction.

14. Unrealised expectations, under the most ordinary circumstances, create feelings of disappointment. It is not matter of surprise, therefore, that men who are ignorant and incapable of comprehending the cause of such delay, who mostly live from hand to mouth, and on whom, therefore, disappointment must weigh with trying severity, view with feelings of surprise the nonfulfilment of these promises ; they are, however, yet hopeful. They are under an impression that the reorganization being now brought to a close, no time would be lost in redeeming the promise. Further delay would lead to doubt, to which would be superadded the trials and temptations of want, derelictions from duty would follow, the impressions I have laboured to produce on the people of the resolution of Government to maintain an efficient Police Force will be weakened if not effaced, and the reorganization rendered less efficacious than it would otherwise be. The object of deferring the assignment of additional lands till the completion of the Revenue Survey and introduction of the survey rates, so as the arrangement of making up the pay of the underpaid men may be at once completed, has no doubt its advantages ; but in the meantime these men, I would beg to remark, are consigned to a state not far removed from starvation. The hope of immunity, therefore, from the consequences of such a state of things cannot but prove a fallacy. These consequences, from the number of Shetsundees who, since the reform of the Police of their villages, have either committed, or been otherwise concerned in robberies, are already becoming manifest. It is hardly necessary to add that it is vitally important that the cause leading to such a state of matters should not be allowed to continue—that, in fact, the guardians of life and property should not be the victims of want. At the present moment, too, there are a large number of Shetsundee vacancies in the different talookas, which, from the very inferior quality, and consequent small value of the lands, it is found impossible to fill up.

15. Of equal importance with adequate remuneration of Police Shetsundees is the measure of completing the complement of Police, and the number for general duty required for the zillah.

16. The instructions issued by Government to increase the pay of the inadequately paid Shetsundees having reference only to men appointed as Police, nothing was done during the reorganization in bringing to notice the inadequacy of pay of the Shetsundees told off for Revenue and miscellaneous duties. It is hardly less important that this section of servants, too, should be placed beyond the pressure of want.

17. The total amount required to make up the pay of the underpaid Police Shetsundees of both Government and Enam Villages is—

	Rs.	*as.*	*p.*
As shown in column No. 1 of Statement No. 2	45,818	12	5¾*
The sum required to make up the complement of Police, and the number for general duty, as shown in column No. 1 of Statement No. 3.....	7,309	0	0
The sum required to make up the pay of the Shetsundees told off for revenue and miscellaneous duties, as shown in column No. 1 of Statement No. 4. (The above Statement exhibits also in separate columns the amount required for "Khalsat" and for "Enam" villages)	5,566	8	11¼
Total.....Rupees	58,694	5	5

18. It will be seen from the reports on the several talookas, that in striking the total of the excess prospectively available in each, or the deficiency to be made up, the result was always ascertained after deducting the sums to be added to the pay of the underpaid Police Shetsundees, as was also the charge for the appointment of the new hands proposed to be entertained to make up the complement of Police, &c. Therefore, though the outlay to be immediately made is, as above stated, Rs. 58,694-5-5, the last item only, or Rs. 5,566-8-11¼, will have to be now deducted from the sums prospectively available from reductions. These sums have been stated in the following Reports as follows:—

	Rs.	*as.*	*p.*
As shown in 14th para. of Report on Sumpgaum, dated 12th October 1849.....	10,784	5	1
As shown in 14th para. of Report on Pursghur, dated 13th February 1850	19,683	8	7
As shown in 13th para. of Report on Gokak, dated 12th Aug. 1850.	41	14	0
As shown in 19th para. of Report on Badamee, dated 30th November 1850	16,304	5	1¼
As shown in 13th para. of Report on Hoongoond, dated 12th February 1851	9,921	8	11
As shown in 12th para. of Report on Bagulkote, dated 31st July 1851.....	405	3	11
Total..	57,140	13	7¼

The above results were obtained from the statements of Shetsundees, furnished by the different Mamlutdars and Mahalkuries, but on a collation of these statements with those in the Duftur of the Collectorate, and correction of some mistakes,

* The total amount, as shown in the Reports on different talookas, is Rs. 46,485-13-11¾, but the statements of Shetsundees received from the different Mamlutdars and Mahalkuries being compared with those in the Duftur, and an item of Rs. 17 entered by oversight in excess of the sum to be made up to a Police Shetsundee of the Enam Village of Nundee (No. 16 of Statement No. 7 of the accompaniments to the Report, dated 16th July 1849, on the Chickodee Talooka), and Rs. 768, to which amount it was proposed to entertain new hands to make up the complement of Police for four Enam villages in the above talooka, which was entered in the above Statement in the column of deficiency of emolument to be made up to underpaid Police Shetsundees, being deducted, Rs. 146-7-5 to be added to the pay of 13 Police Shetsundees subsequently appointed from the Sumpgaum to the Beedee Talooka being added, the amount to be made up to the underpaid men is found to be, as shown above, Rs. 45,818-12-5¾.

The amounts prospectively available from reductions are found (as shown in column No. 17 of Statement No. 6 of the financial results of the reorganization) to be.....	Rs.			56,988	1	0¼
From which deduct the 3rd, or last item, mentioned under para. 17, *i. e.* the sum required to make up the pay of the Shetsundees told off for revenue and miscellaneous duties	Rs.	5,566	8 11¼			
Deduct also the items of deficiency in the Beedee, Bagulkote, Padshapoor, Uthnee, and Tasgaum Talookas, and the value of the holdings of the Shetsundees subsequently appointed from the Sumpgaum Talooka, for the town of Kittom and the village of Niclumkee, in the Beedur Talooka, and the amount necessary to make up their pay to the proposed scale, as indicated in Statement No. 5.....		11,424	0 0			
				16,990	8	11¼
Balance, prospective saving from Shetsundees' holdings, as shown in general Statement No. 6				39,997	8	1

19. The above General Statement, No. 6, of the financial results of the reorganization, exhibits also the following particulars:—

Number of Shetsundees during reorganization				14,552		
Proposed strength for Police		8,235				
Ditto for revenue and miscellaneous duty		2,358				
				10,593		
Difference to be reduced as casualties take place				3,859		
Value of holdings during reorganization, inclusive of vacancies..	Rs.			2,44,559	7	7
Proposed Police pay	Rs.	1,72,915	5 3			
Ditto for revenue and miscellaneous duty ..		31,645	10 3			
				2,04,561	15	6
Balance, prospective saving, as shown in 18th para.....				39,997	8	1

The above amount includes the savings available from Enam Villages; but it being doubtful whether Government can avail itself of these savings for Police purposes (and a reference from the late Magistrate on this subject is now pending before Government), the amount of such saving, which it will be necessary to give up to the Enamdars, in the event of the question being decided in the negative, will be, as shown in Statement No. 7, Rs. 25,337-3-6. In this sum is not included the amount available from reduction, as casualties take place, in the pay of the men whose holdings are in excess of the proposed scale, because these men, having been placed on the strength of the Police of the zillah, are removed from the control of the Enamdars, and because all deficiency in the emolument of the underpaid Shetsundees of the Enam Villages has to be made up by Government. Any savings, therefore, to be effected in the pay of these men, in the way of reduction, Government, I am humbly of opinion, has the best right to, and I beg to submit Statement No. 8, showing an excess of Rs. 5,436-12-10 in the former amount over such available reductions.

21. The above sum of Rs. 25,337-3-6 being deducted from Rs. 39,997-8-1, entered under para. 18 as balance, prospective saving from Shetsundee holdings, leaves Rs. 14,660-4-7 net prospective available saving from the holdings of Shetsundees belonging to Government villages.

22. The above result, as will be seen, is obtained after deducting all items of proposed outlay in making up the pay of the underpaid Shetsundees of both Government and Enam villages employed on Police and general duty, and for the entertainment of new hands to make up the complement of Police &c. for the different talookas. The outlay so to be made, as shown in para. 17, is Rs. 58,694-5-5, which outlay Shetsundee lapses will, I beg to say, cover within 10 or 12 years. Such being the results, present and prospective, in a pecuniary point of view, of the reorganization, I would again very earnestly pray that immediate measures may be adopted to make up the pay of the underpaid men.

23. In communicating the resolution, that Shetsundees who may hereafter be retained in the service are to be paid in cash, Government at the same time direct that they should be encouraged by all means to accept "Khalsat" lands, of the assessed value of their holdings.

24. With regard to the Shetsundees now in employ, whose emolument it is proposed should be made up, preference, I feel assured, would be very happily given by the men themselves, to assignments in lands, provided such lands be of good quality and convenient as to situation; but, as I have already stated, in my report on the Bagulkote Talooka, the absence of waste lands of even middling quality in most villages, the difficulty, if not impossibility, of assigning to underpaid Shetsundees' lands contiguous to their own, and the prohibition against dividing survey fields, are calculated to render impracticable, as a general measure, the paying of these Shetsundees entirely in land. I would, therefore, very earnestly beg to propose, that the sanction of Government may be obtained to make up their pay in cash whenever assignments in land cannot be made.

25. It will be seen that I have abstained from making any proposal for increasing throughout the zillah the pay of the Police Shetsundees to Rs. 24 per annum, per man. The cause of it is, that the prospectively available funds will not admit of such increase. The Police strength of the zillah, however, I am very humbly of opinion, has been fixed at a very high proportion to population. The reason for fixing it so high, I have ventured to state in the 10th para. of my report on the Uthnee Talooka, viz. "that the large body of Shetsundees in the Belgaum division necessitated the adoption of so high a proportion, which was not called for by the existence of any special exigency, but dictated by the apprehension that it may be deemed unwise and impolitic if, in arranging for the prospective reduction of this large body, the number whose interests in their service lands were to cease exceeded the number of those to be retained in the service. Government, too, having enjoined that the changes contemplated should be carried out without creating dissatisfaction."

26. The proportion of one Policeman to about 400 population, which has been the proportion latterly fixed in reorganizing the Police of villages guarded by Ramosees, I am humbly of opinion, would be a far more suitable one,

which I was glad to find, from a communication I had the honor, a short time ago, of receiving from the late Magistrate, is, as nearly as can be, the scale suggested by Captain Wingate for the Dharwar Zillah. A reduction, therefore, to the above extent, in the present proposed strength of the Police of the Belgaum division, may be made a subject for ulterior consideration, provided Government so order it; but in the mean time, in consequence of the difficulties in the way of paying the Shetsundees wholly in land, which, I beg to say, is far more remunerative to them than cash payment (because there are few Shetsundees who have not relations who could be usefully employed in the cultivation of their service lands, in which case all surpluses become their own). I am under an impression that the measure of increasing the pay of the Police Shetsundees, generally, to Rs. 24, and for towns, such as Bagulkote and Badamee, to Rs. 48 and Rs. 36 per annum, respectively, is one which should by no means be lost sight of. The arrangements under which I would propose to effect this augmentation is, that the holdings of Shetsundees dying without heirs, or who are dismissed for bad conduct, continue to be divided among the remaining number, till their pay is increased to the sums proposed. The promulgation of an order to this effect, I am very humbly of opinion, will be productive of highly beneficial results, as every Shetsundee, in that case, would be interested, not only in zealously discharging his own duty, but in watching, and bringing to the notice of his superiors, any misconduct of which any other among them may be guilty; and in time, led on by the impulses of self-interest, they would acquire habits of efficiency and usefulness, which they are not likely to relax in after attaining the higher scale of emolument.

27. As connected with the present conduct of the Shetsundees and Ramosees to what it was three years ago, I would merely remark, that the figured results, exhibited under para. 7, of the amount of robberies and recoveries, &c. may not be the most satisfactory criterion whereon to form a conclusion as to the results of the reorganization: because, previously, instances in which parties who had been robbed, preferring pertinaciously to assert that they had lost nothing, from the hopelessness of obtaining redress, to coming forward and representing their loss to the authorities, were far from uncommon. At the present time, I have merely to bring to your notice a very generally prevalent impression that the way-worn traveller, as well as the toiling inhabitant of the village, may now betake himself to rest, divested of fear for the safety of his property. As indicative of the increasing trustworthiness of the rural Police, and that they are anxious to acquit themselves satisfactorily, is evidenced by the repeated instances of zealous conduct on the part of these men, in apprehending and bringing to justice the perpetrators of crime: nor are they, as a body, wanting in emulation. A large number in the Chikodee Talooka, proud of being Police Sepoys, and treated as such, have supplied themselves with (to them) expensive green woollen cloth coats and black overalls; and the men of Neepanee, in addition to dressing themselves, have engaged the services of a pensioned Havildar to teach them drill, and are now capable of being put through the evolutions with a degree of precision unsurpassed, I feel assured, by even the Poona and Ahmednuggur Police Corps, and the ball practice of the Shetsundees in the Beedee Talooka and

elsewhere, notwithstanding the primitive style of their firearms, was declared by the visiting Judicial Commissioner to be quite equal in execution to that of the Southern Konkan Rangers. This growing disposition to make themselves useful, everywhere manifest, will be fostered and more fully developed by adequate remuneration and active careful superintendence.

28. I have brought to your notice, in my Report on the Bagulkote Talooka (para. 19 and 20, dated 31st July 1851), the very inadequate remuneration enjoyed by the Police Inspectors, of whom the Jemedars' pay, I have taken the liberty of proposing, should be increased to Rs. 15 each, the Duffedars' pay to Rs. 10 each, and that of the Peons' to Rs. 7 each; and I would very humbly submit whether the following funds may not be made available for that purpose.

29. In the 13th and 14th paras. of my report on Pachapoor, I have showed, that there are available for service at the Hoozoor and the Mamlutdar's office, 35 Parghurkurrees and 22 Kullaneedee Ghurkurrees; the former enjoying an aggregate income, in cash, of Rs. 1,120-8-4, the latter, in cash and lands, of Rs. 768-15-7 per annum. There are, besides, 12 men of the Bheem Ghurkurrees available for service in the Beedee Talooka, enjoying an aggregate income, in cash, of Rs. 360 per annum. In the report on Pachapoor I have ventured to propose, for the reasons therein stated, that the Kullaneedee Ghurkurrees may be paid in cash, which, I would very humbly repeat, may be done without any fear of the lands now held by the Ghurkurrees being allowed to go to waste, or loss resulting to Government in the sums at which they are assessed. The total number of Ghurkurrees thus available for service is 69, and the aggregate amount of their holdings Rs. 2,249-7-11.

30. To ensure efficiency, men employed at a distance from their villages will be inadequately paid under Rs. 4 per mensem. To raise the pay of the Ghurkurrees to this scale, it will be necessary to add Rs. 1,062-8-1 to their present emoluments. But, on the other hand, by the employment of these men, a reduction of an equal number from the establishments in the Belgaum division may be made, by dismissing from the inefficient hands in each talooka, and filling up their places by drafting from the Pachapoor and Beedee Talookas the number required to make room for the Ghurkurrees. For the present, at least, the measure of allowing the Ghurkurrees to do duty in the Beedee and Pachapoor Talookas, I think desirable, from their not having been, hitherto, permanently employed at a distance from their villages. The dismissal of 69 Peons will effect a saving to the extent of the present emoluments of the 69 Ghurkurrees, viz. Rs. 2,249-7-11.

31. There are, at present, employed as inspectors of the reorganized Police 9 Jemedars (returned to their respective cutcherries on the 1st June 1852), 33 Duffedars, and 141 sepoys, whose pay it is proposed to augment. It is necessary, also, to appoint a Jemedar for the Pachapoor Talooka, which is without one, and an additional one for the Badamee Talooka, the large extent of which renders such a measure necessary. The available funds, however, will not admit of increasing the pay of these officers to the extent proposed. It may be done to the extent of increasing the pay of the Jemadars to Rs. 15 each,

and of the Duffedars to Rs. 8 each, and appointing two new Jemadars. This arrangement I would respectfully submit for favourable consideration, under which there will remain a saving of Rs. 104-7-11 per annum.

32. I beg, also, to append Statement No. 9, showing the Patelkee Wuttuns of the talookas in the Belgaum division, and the amount fixed as Police pay therefrom. The former aggregates to Rs. 1,25,142-8-0, the latter to Rs. 44,063-2-4. From the statements forwarded with the reports on the different talookas, however, the total of the Patelkee Wuttuns would appear to be Rs. 1,61,507-8-8, but the introduction of the Revenue Survey, in most of the talookas of the Belgaum division, has reduced it to the amount now shown in column No. 1 of Statement No. 9, which may undergo a further reduction on the introduction of the survey rates in the remaining talookas.

33. In conclusion, I would beg to indulge the hope that the results of the reorganization, so far as it has gone, may not be deemed unfavorable; and I would at the same time beg to add that, by giving effect to the arrangements for the adequate remuneration of inspectors and Police Patels, and Shetsundees, the highest anticipations of yet more successful results may very safely be indulged in.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

Belgaum, 30*th December* 1851.

(True copy)

(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,
Magistrate.

Statement No. 1.

Police Shetsundees who having, subsequently to the Reform, committed Thefts or other Crime, have been punished and dismissed.

No.	Names.	Present Pay.			Proposed Pay.		
	Chikodee Talooka.	*Rs.*	*as.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*as.*	*p.*
1	Luxmon bin Mahadoo	15	11	0	24	0	0
2	Shettee bin Goondapa	30	5	0	24	0	0
3	Bheema bin Balapa	19	8	0	24	0	0
4	Ruggojee bin Khundha	22	9	7	18	0	0
5	Tukupa bin Lingapa	15	4	6	18	0	0
6	Manojee bin Bheema	10	7	0	24	0	0
7	Rutnapa bin Jukkoo	15	12	0	24	0	0
8	Hurree bin Shettee	18	0	0	18	0	0
9	Bapoo Wulud Balekhan	16	7	0	18	0	0
10	Shidao bin Kenchapa	16	5	3	24	0	0
	Pursghur Talooka.						
11	Bheema bin Lingapa	12	0	0	18	0	0
12	Bawa Khan Wulud Peroo	8	0	0	18	0	0
13	Bheema Wulud Balana	10	8	0	18	0	0
	Beedee Talooka.						
14	Moogoot Wulud Shek Deewan	14	2	0	18	0	0
15	Khundoo Wulud Peeria	10	8	0	24	0	0
16	Boodia Wulud Leekmia	14	2	0	24	0	0
17	Hustoo Wulud Heera	14	2	0	24	0	0
	Gokak Talooka.						
18	Shida bin Lukana	13	0	0	27	0	0
	Hoongoond Talooka.						
19	Bheema bin Bhurmuna	15	2	4	24	0	0
20	Mumdoo Wulud Doisia	49	9	1	24	0	0
21	Bala bin Hunmapa	46	1	1	24	0	0

(Signed) C. FORJETT, on Special Duty.

Statement No. 2.

Sums required to make up the Pay of the underpaid Police Shetsundees; Column No. 1 showing the aggregate of such Sums as indicated in the different Reports, of which aggregate, Column No. 2 shows the amount belonging to "Khalsat," and Column No. 3 the amount belonging to Enam Villages.

No.	Names of Talookas.	No. 1.			No. 2.			No. 3.		
1	Chikodee	9,334	10	10	7,055	11	3	2,278	15	7
2	Sumpgaum	1,798	5	2	1,795	3	11	3	1	3
3	Pursghur	4,639	4	7	3,796	14	9	842	5	10
4	Beedee, inclusive of Rs. 146-7-5 to be added to the pay of 13 Police Shetsundees subsequently appointed from the Sumpgaum to the Beedee Talooka	4,799	11	11	3,788	15	5	1,010	12	6
5	Gokak	3,408	0	0	2,564	9	9	843	6	3
6	Badamee	6,266	2	8¾	3,437	12	1¾	2,828	6	7
7	Hoongoond	2,724	11	2	2,073	9	7	651	1	7
8	Bagulkote	3,508	0	4	2,510	10	2	997	6	2
9	Pachapoor	4,598	14	11	3,243	1	10	1,355	13	1
10	Uthnee	4,309	2	6	3,121	15	6	1,187	3	0
11	Tasgaum	431	12	4	408	12	4	23	0	0
	Aggregate Total..	45,818	12	5¾						
	Total of Khalsat Villages..				33,797	4	7¾			
	Total of Enam Villages..							12,021	7	10

(Signed) C. FORJETT, on Special Duty.

Statement No. 3.

Sums required to make up the Complement of Police, and the Number for General Duty for the Zilla—Column No. 1 *showing the Aggregate of such Sums, as indicated in the different Reports, of which Aggregate Column No.* 2 *shows the Amount belonging to Khalsat, and Column No.* 3 *the Amount belonging to Enam Villages.*

No.	Names of Talookas and dates of Reports, &c.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
1	Chikodee Talooka, as shown in Statement No.7 of the accompaniments to the Report, dated 15th July 1849, on that Talooka	768 0 0	.....	768 0 0
2	Beedee Talooka Report, dated 29th June 1850, 15th para.....	4,614 0 0	4,314 0 0	300 0 0
3	Gokak Talooka Report, dated 12th August 1850, 13th para.....	399 0 0	255 0 0	144 0 0
4	Tasgaum Talooka Report, dated 4th November 1851, 8th para	1,528 0 0	1,528 0 0	.....
	Aggregate Total.....	7,309 0 0		
	Total of Khalsat Villages..		6,097 0 0	
	Total of Enam Villages..			1,212 0 0

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

Statement No. 4.

Sums required to make up the Pay of the Shetsundees set apart for Revenue and Miscellaneous Duties—Column No. 1 *showing the Aggregate of such Sums, Column No.* 2 *of Khalsat, and Column No.* 3 *of Enam Villages.*

No.	Names of Talookas.	No. 1. Aggregate Amount.	No. 2. Khalsat Villages.	No. 3. Enam Villages.
1	Chikodee	1,757 12 7	1,452 15 10	301 12 9
2	Sumpgaum	257 14 1	250 12 1	7 2 0
3	Pursghur	497 7 7	450 14 10	46 8 9
4	Beedee	489 11 4	381 4 7	108 6 9
5	Gokak	318 11 6	229 7 0	89 4 6
6	Badamee	699 12 2¼	317 14 5¼	381 13 9
7	Hoongoond.....	307 2 6	265 4 10	41 13 8
8	Bagulkote.....	371 14 1	216 14 1	155 0 0
9	Padshapoor	422 9 0	358 7 11	64 1 1
10	Uthnee	435 5 10	306 7 1	128 14 9
11	Tasgaum	11 4 3	11 4 3	.....
	Aggregate Total..	5,566 8 11¼		
	Total of Khalsat Villages..		4,241 10 11¼	
	Total of Enam Villages..			1,324 14 0

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

Statement No. 5.

Deficiencies, &c. to be deducted from Sums prospectively available as Savings from Shetsundee Holdings.

No.	Names of Talookas.	Amount.		
		Rs.	*as.*	*p*
1	In the Report on Beedee, dated 29th June 1850, para. 15, is shown a deficiency of Rs. 5,712-4-5 ; but on a comparison of the talooka with the Duftur accounts, the actual deficiency in this talooka is..	5,700	10	
2	In the Report on Bagulcote, dated July 31st 1851, para. 12, is shown an excess of Rs. 405-3-11, by including in the value of the Shetsundee holdings of the talookas Rs. 1,136-14-0 taken from funds available from Shetsundee vacancies in other talookas, for the purpose of entertaining new hands to make up the complement of Police, and for general duty required for the talooka ; but this item being now deducted, under instructions from the Magistrate, and some errors which were discovered on a collation of the talooka with the Duftur accounts being corrected, the deficiency in the talooka is now found to be.....	155	2	10
3	In the Report on Padshapoor, dated 21st October 1851, para. 11, is shown a deficiency of Rs. 462-11-7, by including in the value of the Shetsundee holdings of the talooka Rs. 1,737, taken from funds available from Shetsundee vacancies in other talookas, for the purpose of entertaining new hands to make up the complement of Police, and for general duty required for the talooka ; but this item being now deducted, under instructions from the Magistrate, and some errors which were discovered by a collation of the talooka with the Duftur accounts being corrected, the deficiency in this talooka is now found to be.....	2,187	11	7
4	In the Report on Uthnee, dated 3rd November 1851, para. 13, is shown a deficiency of Rs. 1,425-0-9, by including in the value of the Shetsundee holdings of the talooka Rs. 583-4-9 taken from funds available from Shetsundee vacancies in other talookas, for the purpose of entertaining new hands to make up the complement of Police, and for general duty required for the talooka; but this item being now deducted, under instructions from the Magistrate, and some errors which were discovered on a collation of the talooka with the Duftur accounts being corrected, the deficiency in this talooka is found to be.....	1,999	3	3
5	As shown in the Report on Tasgaum, dated 4th November 1851, para. 8, deficiency	949	3	11
6	Value Rs. 328-3-10 of the holdings of the Shetsundees subsequently appointed from the Sumpgaum Talooka for Police and for general duty, for the town of Kittoor and the village of Neechunkee, of the Beedee Talooka, as shown in the Progress Reports for the months of April and May 1850, and the amount, Rs. 103-12-2, necessary to make up the pay of the Police Shetsundees to the proposed scale, total	432	0	0
	Total....	11,424	0	0

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

STATEMENT No. 6.

General Statement of the Financial Results of the Reorganization.

Proposed Strength and Emoluments.

For Police Duty.						For General Duty.			
Present Pay.	Deduct Excess.	To be added to make up proposed Pay.	Emolument of Men proposed to be newly entertained.	Proposed Pay.	No. of Shetsundees.	Present Pay.	Deduct Excess.	Emolument of Men proposed
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
31,445 2 5	4,577 13 3	9,334 10 10	768 0 0	36,970 0 0	484	5,690 3 3	803 14 5	...
13,270 0 3	2,423 5 5	1,798 5 2	.....	12,645 0 0	198	2,924 9 4	618 7 5	....
12,785 14 2	3,952 2 9	4,639 4 7	.....	13,473 0 0	195	4,888 0 11	2,806 4 6	...
9,875 7 4	998 11 10	4,653 4 6	4,134 0 0	17,664 0 0	151 and 40 A	1,867 14 7	545 9 11	480
7,763 13 11	830 1 11	3,408 0 0	279 0 0	10,620 12 0	153 and 10 A	2,200 10 8	659 6 2	120
20,166 3 2¼	3,954 5 11	6,266 2 8¾	.....	22,478 0 0	336	6,212 12 9	2,552 8 11¼	....
13,717 10 9	2,582 5 11	2,724 11 2	.....	13,860 0 0	207	3,809 8 10	1,372 11 6	....
10,422 9 9	841 10 1	3,508 0 4	.....	13,089 0 0	176	2,656 7 5	748 9 6	....
13,654 6 5	503 12 7	4,598 14 11	.....	17,749 8 9	168	2,740 10 10	541 10 10	...
7,012 3 10	257 5 4	4,309 2 6	.....	11,064 1 0	157	2,384 6 9	513 12 7	....
1,356 3 5	106 0 3	431 12 4	1,320 0 0	3,001 15 6	59 and 13 A	1,417 7 4	488 11 7	208
1,41,469 11 5¼	21,027 11 3	45,672 5 0¾	6,501 0 0	1,72,615 5 3	2,347	36,792 12 8	11,652 11 4¼	808
153 8 7	.....	146 7 5	.....	300 0 0	11	174 11 3	42 11 3	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	...
1,41,623 4 0¼	21,027 11 3	45,818 12 5¾	6,501 0 0	1,72,915 5 3	2,358	36,967 7 11	11,695 6 7¼	808

▲ Men proposed to be newly entertained.

The sum to be absorbed, as shown in Column No. 17 ..... Rs.	56,988	1
Deduct deficiency, as shown in Column No. 18	15,990	8
Balance proposed saving from Shetsundee holdings, as shown in 18th para. of General Report.	39,997	8

Statement No. 7.

Value of the Holdings of the Shetsundees belonging to Enam Villages entered as available for reduction in the Reports on the different Talookas, as per Nominal Roll of each Talooka; also, the Amount of Shetsundee Vacancies in Enam Villages, inclusive of both which the Total either of the Excess or Deficiency in each Talooka has been struck.

No.	Names of Talookas.	Amount.		
		Rs.	*as.*	*p.*
1	Chikodee	1,906	0	5
2	Sumpgaum	188	1	11
3	Pursghur	4,829	15	2
4	Beedee	1,000	9	2
5	Gokak	1,409	1	10
6	Badamee	5,530	1	4
7	Hoongoond	2,003	2	10
8	Bagulkote	877	3	7
9	Pachapoor	2,195	9	2
10	Uthnee	799	1	3
	Total..	20,738	14	0
	Vacancies.			
1	Chikodee	329	4	9
2	Pursghur	235	4	6
3	Beedee	40	6	0
4	Gokak	1,252	11	4
5	Badamee	747	7	11
6	Hoongoond	1,370	10	10
7	Bagulkote	409	6	6
8	Pachapoor	21	10	11
9	Uthnee	191	6	1
	Total..	25,337	3	6

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

Statement No. 8,

Column No. 1 of which shows the Amount of Pay enjoyed by Shetsundees belonging to Enam Villages, in excess of the Scale of Pay proposed in Progress Reports, and Column No. 2 the Amount which it is necessary to add to the Pay of the underpaid Men.

No.	Names of Talookas.	No. 1. Excess.			No. 2 to be added to underpaid Men.		
		Rs.	*as.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*as.*	*p.*
1	Chikodee	2,226	11	4	3,063	15	7
2	Sumpgaum	161	10	6	3	1	3
3	Pursghur	975	11	10	842	5	10
4	Beedee	125	10	4	1,010	12	6
5	Gokak	1,265	8	5	843	6	3
6	Badamee	965	2	7	2,828	6	7
7	Hoongoond	815	4	0	657	1	7
8	Bagulkote	304	0	9	997	6	2
9	Pachapoor	99	1	10	1,355	13	1
10	Uthnee	425	5	5	1,187	3	0
11	Tasgaum	5	8	0	23	0	0
	Total....	7,369	11	0	12,806	7	10
	Difference....	5,436	12	10			

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

Statement No. 9,

Column No. 1 of which shows the Amount of Patelkee Wuttuns of the Talookas in the Belgaum Division, and Column No. 2 the Amount of Police Pay, fixed during reorganization, for each Village.

No.	Names of Talookas.	No. 1.			No. 2.		
		Rs.	*as.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*as.*	*p.*
1	Chikodee	36,866	10	9	6,229	8	0
2	Sumpgaum	6,295	14	2	2,405	1	2
3	Pursghur	5,541	5	9	2,942	1	5
4	Beedee	9,282	2	5	6,574	0	0
5	Gokak	7,788	6	8	2,708	0	0
6	Badamee	13,668	2	6	6,016	0	0
7	Hoongoond	13,116	10	9	4,154	0	0
8	Bagulkote	4,381	4	10	3,910	0	0
9	Pachapoor	11,399	3	9	4,518	7	9
10	Uthnee	11,555	13	2	3,638	0	0
11	Tasgaum	5,246	13	3	968	0	0
	Total....	1,25,142	8	0	44,068	2	4
	Balance....	81,079	5	8			

(Signed) C. FORJETT,
On Special Duty.

No. 9.

No. 37 of 1852.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

POLICE.

To the MAGISTRATE OF BELGAUM.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the correspondence which accompanied your endorsement No. 252, dated the 8th of July last, reporting the completion of the reorganization of the Shetsundees of the Belgaum Magistracy.

2. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has desired me to acquaint you, that the general results of the measure, as ably epitomized in your letter to the Sudder Adawlut of the 30th June last, are very satisfactory.

3. From the above report it appears that this immense body of 14,452 militia has been reduced to a certain discipline and order, and appointed to certain duties, no expense having been incurred beyond the salary of Mr. Forjett, now Superintendent of Police and Deputy Magistrate.

4. Having decided that the immense alienated revenues appropriated to Shetsundees are not hereditary, and that the Magistrate should exercise his discretion in resuming superfluous holdings, it obviously should be the chief aim of the organization, that a large eventual saving should accrue to the State, and the Police expenditure of Belgaum be brought more on a par with that of other Collectorates, and applied to make good their deficiencies.

5. His Lordship in Council is somewhat disappointed to observe, that out of service lands, assessed at no less a sum than Rs. 2,44,559-7-7, no greater prospective saving should be shown than Rs. 39,997-8-1 ; but he quite agrees with you "that at the outset of a novel undertaking it was necessary to proceed with caution, to avoid all cause for discontent and disgust" ; and that "hereafter, when efficiency is increased, numbers may be brought to a lower limit." This intention should ever be kept in view in all future arrangements, since it is evident that reduction to proper numbers must be a work of time.

6. As regards the proportion of Police to population, it was intimated to you in Government letter No. 6066, of the 29th of July last, that Government considered 1 Shetsundee to 300 inhabitants to be an ample allowance. The table given at the close of para. 23 of your letter to the Sudder Adawlut shows in every talooka of the collectorate but two, an actual proportion of

more than 2 to 1 above the rate indicated,—the exceptions being in the Uthnee and Tasgaum Talookas, where the proportion is stated to be in the former 1 to 176, in the latter 1 to 132 ; but His Lordship in Council quite concurs in the justice of your remark, that no rule can be laid down for strict observance in this respect, since local considerations must, in many cases, determine the necessary proportion.

7. The necessity, however, for very considerable reductions, is self-evident and Government expect that it will be the constant endeavour of the Magistrate to approximate to a proper scale ; which, I am to observe, should be fixed as low as may, in your opinion, be compatible with efficiency.

8. His Lordship observes that Mr. Forjett has placed the Shetsundee Police of the villages under the Patels, and that you have replaced low-paid inspectors by Karkoons. These appear to Government to be steps in the right direction. The system of Police which is about to be introduced into all the zillas presumes the authority of the Patels to be clearly defined and established, and requires that there should be with every Mamlutdar a Police Karkoon in subordinate authority, and under the immediate orders of the Superintendent, as at Ahmednuggur ; but the proposed arrangement in the present case should, as it seems to His Lordship in Council, have the concurrence of the revenue authorities before it can be sanctioned in this department. A reference will, accordingly, be made to the Revenue Department, the result of which will hereafter be communicated to you.

9. You have shown yourself so conversant with the rights and opinions of the reformed Shetsundees, and with the actual state and progress of the reform, which, indeed, is due to your suggestion, that His Lordship in Council deems it unnecessary to enter into a detailed consideration of the several paras. of your letter. He will confine his remarks, therefore, to such points only as appear to him to be proper subjects for comment.

10. And first, as regards the Police duties to be exacted from the Shetsundees, Rules II. and III. taken in connection with Rule VII. appear to Government to be obnoxious to the remarks contained in para. 4 of Government letter No. 5407, of the 26th of December 1849, remarks in which the Honorable the Court of Directors have expressly stated their concurrence.

11. It is stated in para. 8, that Mr. Reeves objected to the severity of these rules, and that Mr. Forjett successfully combatted his objections, in his reply to a letter from that gentleman of the 14th of February 1850. His Lordship has no recollection of having seen this reply, and would wish you to furnish him with a copy of it.

12. Government would wish you to explain how a rule which renders it the duty of the Patel never to sleep in his own house, and to watch by night during the entire period of his life, as the rules referred to would seem to provide for, can in their operation be otherwise than harsh and oppressive ; and, being so, how it can be expected that the rule will not, as a matter of course, become at no distant period obsolete.

13. Another point in which His Lordship in Council would wish to caution you is the generally objectionable character, in the instance of Belgaum, of proposals for additional expenditure.

14. In allusion to the eventual saving of Rs. 39,997-8-1 annually, you observe in para. 14, that even to bring about this consummation is a work of time, "because it has not been thought advisable all at once to deprive so large a number of men, with their families, of their accustomed means of livelihood." Reductions and resumptions are, therefore, very properly deferred until lapses occur, either by the dismissal or death of incumbents.

15. On the strength of a general pledge by Government, that in every case where Shetsundees employed as Police are found to be inadequately paid, steps should be taken to rectify so serious an error, Mr. Forjett, in assigning duties to the Shetsundees, has considered himself authorised by the above instructions to revise their emoluments. It is obviously necessary to the reform of the Shetsundees, that the allowances of underpaid servants should be raised to the lowest scale which has been fixed upon, but with due regard to the large amount of alienated lands and revenues in the Belgaum Collectorate. Even should it be impolitic to defer this measure, there are two considerations which should never be lost sight of in acting upon it, viz:—

The increase to underpaid Shetsundees should, as nearly as possible, be supplied out of the savings by lapses and resumptions.

And where the number of Shetsundees in a village is excessive, those only should be marked off for present and constant duty who are adequately remunerated, the others being merely entered in the roll of the State dependents, or engaged on duties not more than equivalent to the smallness of their actual remuneration.

16. These expedients, it is expected, will obviate, in a great measure, the necessity for present additional increase of expenditure where excess of charge, whether in land or money, may be considered indispensable. Each occasion, as it arises, must be reported separately for special sanction.

17. His Lordship in Council requests that the result of Mr. Forjett's proceedings, alluded to in para. 30, may be hereafter reported.

18. As regards the extension of the reform to Inam villages, since you appear to anticipate "not the slightest difficulty" in dealing with the question, Government, unless appealed to, will abstain for the present from all interference in your arrangements. Your further proceedings should, of course, be reported to them.

19. Looking to the zeal, activity, and intelligence displayed, from first to last, by Mr. Forjett, in carrying out this organization, and to the good effects which have attended, and are likely to attend, his efforts, His Lordship in Council thinks it due to that gentleman, and avails himself with much pleasure of the present opportunity of doing so, to record the entire satisfaction of Government at the manner in which he has hitherto accomplished the important duties confided to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st October 1852.

No. 10.

Correspondence referred to in Para. 6 *of the Government Letter No.* 37, *dated* 21*st October* 1852.

No. 6066 of 1852.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the MAGISTRATE OF BELGAUM.

SIR,

I am now directed to acknowledge your letter No. 29, dated the 23rd of January last, with accompaniment, on the reorganization of the Shetsundee Police.

2. Government have received a separate communication on the same subject from the Magistrate of Dharwar, a copy of which, and of my reply thereto, of this day's date, are herewith forwarded for your information.

3. My reply to Mr. Law will convey to you the sentiments of Government on the several points under consideration. In referring you, therefore, to that document, it will be sufficient, in this place, to notice your letter very briefly.

4. There is much justice in the remarks contained in the 3rd para. of your letter; but they apply to exceptions rather than to the rule as a rule. Government would prefer taking population rather than revenue as their guide, in fixing the permanent Shetsundee establishment. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council may have more to say on this subject in disposing of your promised General Report: at present he would merely observe, that Mr. Forjett's rates of 1 Policeman to 120 inhabitants, or 1 to 175, are regarded as disproportionately high. 1 Policeman to 300 inhabitants of the rural districts of the Southern Mahratta Country appears to His Lordship, as at present advised, to be an ample allowance.

5. Government concurs in the justice of the opinion expressed by you in the 4th para. and on the proposal for reducing the settlement of Shetsundee holdings, according to the new survey rates, which is brought forward at the close of it.

6. The subject noticed in your 7th para. has been referred to the Revenue Department, and the decision of Government will hereafter be communicated to you.

7. The adequate remuneration of the Police and Revenue Patels has been sanctioned by the Honorable Court, as you are doubtless aware, in the Revenue Department, and therefore need not be further noticed here.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 29th July 1852.

No. 6065 of 1852.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the MAGISTRATE OF DHARWAR.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge your letter No. 221, dated the 17th February last, with enclosures, soliciting instructions on certain points connected with the reorganization of the Shetsundee Police, on which a difference of opinion has arisen amongst the several Officers who have been consulted in the matter.

2. Government have received another communication on the same subject from the Magistrate of Belgaum, dated the 23rd of Januray last, a copy of which is annexed for your information.

3. The points in these communications which have suggested, or are suggestive of discussion, are—

1*st.* What should be the minimum pay of Shetsundees, in cash, per mensem?

2*nd.* Should the number of Shetsundees be fixed, with reference to Revenue, to population, or to local circumstances?

3*rd.* In what proportion?

4*th.* Whether separate provision should be made for the two branches of duty, Police and Revenue, of the three Collectorates?

5*th.* Should the available funds for remunerating Shetsundees where the system prevails be thrown into one general fund?

6*th.* Whether the large towns should be included in the settlement, or left to furnish their own Police?

4. I shall preface the observations which I am desired to communicate to you on these points by a few remarks on the 7th para. of your letter. It is there stated, that while sanctioning cash payments to Shetsundees, Government appear to have given inconsistent orders in directing that they should be encouraged to take Khalsat lands in lieu of such payments.

5. There is no inconsistency, as you suppose, in these orders. Cash payments were sanctioned by the Honorable Court of Directors after receipt of the joint report of Messrs. Hart and Wingate on the Village Establishment of the Noulgoond Talooka. Subsequent to the receipt and disposal of that report, Governinent have, however, recorded an opinion, founded upon the general evidence laid before them, that the payment by assignment of land for Police service, by Shetsundees, is preferable, as more in accordance with the customs of the country, and more popular with the people, than payments in cash, provided the land be distinctly reserved to the party who is bound to discharge the service, and is not subjected to division by the family of the occupant on his demise.

6. But at the same time it was decided that each Shetsundee should be allowed the option of choosing between a cash payment or the assignment of land of a like value, being encouraged, however, to accept the latter.

7. To revert to the considerations noticed in the 3rd para. of that letter, Captain Wingate's views upon the first question are considered, upon the whole, to furnish a fair and generally proper rule for future guidance, subject to the modifications, in particular instances, which the several Magistrates may consider to be required. It is very desirable that the reorganization of the Shetsundee Police should be as nearly as possible uniform in the several collectorates in which Shetsundees are to be found. The reform of the Belgaum Police, as you are aware, has nearly been brought to a completion. The pay of the Shetsundees of that collectorate has been settled at a minimum rate of 18 rupees, the higher rates being 21 and 24 rupees. There is no intention of disturbing this arrangement, notwithstanding that these rates represent in almost all, if not all, cases in the Belgaum Collectorate, land assessed at the old rates to that amount, and that under the new rates of assessment the mimimum would be even less than 18 rupees.

8. On the 2nd question it appears to Government, after a careful reconsideration of the subject, that the number of Shetsundees should, as a rule, be fixed with reference to population, not the revenue. Your communication contains some very just remarks on this point.

9. There then arises the 3rd question—What is to be the fixed proportion? All seem agreed that one Shetsundee for 120, or even for 175, of the population, is an unnecessarily high proportion. Without determining an invariable rate, and while prepared to consider any representation which the Officers who have been consulted may think fit to make, it appears, however, to His Lordship in Council, as at present advised, that one Shetsundee for each village with only 300 inhabitants would be amply sufficient for the purposes of a rural Police.

10. It ought, however, to be clearly understood, that no general rule of a nature like the preceding should debar the Magistrate from the exercise of a sound discretion in providing for exceptional cases, when distributing over his collectorate the aggregate number of Shetsundees disposable for the service.

11. It is the duty of Government to lay down rules for general guidance, but not to commit themselves to strict definitions, which may operate mischievously, by fettering the discretion of their local officers.

12. This principle will apply in deciding, fourthly, whether in any or all cases separate provision should be made for the two branches of duty, Police and Revenue. It may happen that in many cases there should be a separation; in others not. On this point Government must trust implicitly to the Magistrate, holding him responsible that the Village Police system is efficiently organized, and that the Police duties to be exacted from the Shetsundees are not overlooked.

13. I shall now notice the 5th question. It will be obvious from the foregoing observations that your suggestion, that the *funds* available for remunerating Shetsundees in the three collectorates should be thrown into one "Fund," cannot be adopted. After the Shetsundees in each of the three collectorates have been settled, as at Belgaum, there may, perhaps, be a general available *balance*, arising from resumptions, and excess of present numbers, which will be gradually reduced. It will be time enough to provide for the disposal of such balance when Government are assured that it is available.

14. The 6th, and last proposal under consideration, is not stated as clearly as could be wished. His Lordship in Council cannot be sure, therefore, that he is dealing with the real opinions of the writers. But if correct, in his view of their intentions, His Lordship in Council does not think that, as a general rule, safety of property and person in large towns should be entrusted to the Shetsundees. They are particularly intended and paid for service as a rural Police, and are better fitted for the prevention and detection of crime in villages and country districts than in populous and wealthy towns.

15. A copy of my letter to the Magistrate of Belgaum, of this day's date, is herewith forwarded for your information.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 29th July 1852.

No. 11.

DISCIPLINE, ARMING, AND CLOTHING OF POLICE CORI

No. 5440 of 1852.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the REGISTER OF THE SUDDER ADAWLUT.

SIR,

I have laid before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council your letter of the 4th February last, No. 374, on the subject of converting the several Police Corps into efficient bodies of Police ; and am now desired to communicate to you the following observations :—

2. The Police Corps under this Presidency are as follows :—

1. The Ahmednuggur Police Corps.
2. The Khandeish Bheel Corps.
3. The Ghaut Police Corps.
4. The Guzerat Koolie Police.
5. The Poona Police Corps.
6. The Poona City Police.
7. The Rutnagherry Rangers.
8. The Surat Seebundee Corps.
9. The Guzerat Police Corps.

3. The rules heretofore prevailing in regard to clothing these corps assimilate, it appears, in no particular. Some are clothed annually, some biennially, some triennially, and some provide their own clothing. In some corps certain articles only are provided, in others expensive uniforms ; and, finally, the clothing is supplied from different sources.

4. The advantage of substituting a uniform and economical practice for so irregular a procedure need not be urged.

5. But Government are called on to determine, not only on the rule of supply, but also on the fashion of the clothing—a consideration which is connected closely with the efficiency of the corps, and with the system of discipline to be observed. At present the patterns of the uniform in use differ, it appears, according to the established custom of the corps, or the caprice of the Commanding Officers.

6. In deciding on the description of dress, as well as of equipment, best adapted to the duties Policemen have to perform, it is necessary to keep in view the following requisites :—

1*st.* A certain uniformity of appearance is desirable, both to facilitate the easy recognition of each other by the men, and to assist the eye in executing accurately the few simple military evolutions which it may be proper to teach them.

2*nd.* The colour of the uniform should not be conspicuous or remarkable, or it may enable parties whom they are desirous of capturing or surprising to elude their pursuit.

3*rd.* The dress adopted for the Police corps should admit of perfect freedom of action, since the more this essential condition is departed from, the greater is the advantage which fugitives will possess on endeavouring to evade arrest. This consideration more especially holds good when our Police are required to effect the capture of armed gangs in a difficult or hilly country abounding in jungle.

7. To ensure these advantages, therefore, the uniform of a Policeman should be as light as possible, or it will weary ; sufficiently loose not to impede freedom of limb, yet not so much so as to embarrass the wearer, and impede progress in rapid motion or in a close country.

8. It should also be as little oppressive as possible in the heat of the day, and at the same time as useful in resisting the damp and the cold at night, as the object of all clothing is to add to personal comfort. This quality, which alone will make the men prize their dress, should receive a due attention.

9. Looking to the observance of these conditions, and after considering the remarks of the various officers whose opinions on this subject are before Government, as well as to the various practices of the different corps, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, previous to the receipt of your letter, had arrived at the conclusion that the average of essentials will be best secured by the blue cloth angrica, with light trousers of cotton cloth, and a puggree, and single waist belt, the description of arm being a light percussion fusil and sword bayonet. It is gratifying to find that this opinion, which has been for some time past recorded by His Lordship, should agree so nearly with those which the Judges have now expressed, as to be almost identical, though neither Government nor the Court had previously the means of ascertaining their respective sentiments on this subject.

10. It has accordingly been resolved, that the several corps should be dressed and equipped in the manner above described, and that from the next period of issue of clothing the men of all Police corps should be provided alike, and biennially, with an angrica of coarse blue cloth.

11. The rest of their dress the men will provide for themselves, each commanding officer making the necessary stoppages for the purpose. It should consist of the articles mentioned in the 3rd para. of your letter under acknowledgment, as follows :—

Loose dark blue trousers of coarse cotton cloth.
A dark blue turban.
A leather waist-band.
Sandals.

12. But as it would manifestly operate as a hardship that men who have entered the service on the implied condition of receiving their clothing or a part of it without charge should now be expected to provide it at their own expense, Government have resolved—

First, That the orders for stopping the cost of all the men's clothing, except their angricas, from their pay, should be made to affect those only who enter the service after the 1st January 1853.

Secondly, That to the men of the several corps who have entered the service prior to that date only such of the clothing ordered as corresponds with the articles of clothing which they have been accustomed to receive gratis should be furnished by Government.

Thirdly, That to prevent increase of expense from the increased cost of the angricas, the Poona Police Corps and the Poona City Police should not be supplied with angricas gratuitously, until the period has arrived when, owing to the gradual absorption by deaths, retirements, &c. &c. of the men who entered the service before the new order had effect, Government shall have been relieved of the extra expense of providing them with other articles of clothing besides the angrica; after which the order in favor of the two corps referred to can take effect. The Civil Auditor will be instructed to report to Government when the account has thus been balanced.

13. As respects the system of drill and discipline which should be observed, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council entirely concurs in the opinion of the Court, as expressed in para. 2 of the Register's letter of the 1st September 1849, No. 2433, Policemen, not soldiers, are required. His Lordship in Council by no means undervalues the military feeling on which Captain Morris lays so much stress: yet it would, he considers, be unwise to sacrifice for it the primary essentials of a good Police. Military training, in the opinion of Government, is carried far enough, when, in addition to the qualities mentioned by the Judges in the letter referred to, the men have been taught by their Military Commanding Officers the first general principles and practice of acting efficiently in bodies. The discipline, in short, to which these corps are to be trained might preserve some such relation to that of the regular infantry as that of irregular corps of horse bears to the training of cavalry of the line.

14. This much Government believe may be secured by an intelligent commanding officer at a moderate sacrifice of time and attention. It seems not only impracticable, but unwise, to go much farther. It may also be shown that for Police purposes a too great attention to drill and discipline practised by regular troops is undesirable. This discipline forms a man to become the component part of a body, but it rather unfits him for acting alone when thrown on his unassisted resources. The fact of others habitually thinking for him, and of his sole duty consisting in obedience to orders, must necessarily weaken his habits of self-reliance, and diminish his ability to form an unassisted judgment on the proper course to be pursued at critical moments.

15. Every Policeman, on the other hand, should be trained to think and act for himself, the value of his services depending mainly on his individual intelligence.

16. If these views be correct, it follows that a Police corps should be so far accustomed to the mechanical detail of regular discipline, as in practice to be able to act with effect in a body, and to fire well and quickly. In respect to dress, the men should present a uniform appearance on parade, but in other respects should be subject to moral discipline only, such as is best adapted to fit them for acting as Police, either singly or in concert. The same observation is made in my letter of the 25th August last, No. 4972, A. These desiderata Government trust will be promoted by the change now sanctioned.

17. It is for obvious reasons undesirable to make these orders applicable to the Khandesh Bheel Corps. The men of that corps have been reclaimed at great trouble and expense from a wild and predatory state, and the good effects, political and moral, upon their class, and the country generally, which have attended the judicious system pursued towards them, should not, it is considered, be endangered by any alteration in their treatment, which might diminish their feeling of attachment to the service. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has accordingly resolved, that the system of clothing and discipline obtaining in the Khandesh Bheel Corps should not be interfered with.

18. The Judges will be so good as to give effect to these orders without delay, so as to enable the different commanding officers to bring the reform now sanctioned into operation from the commencement of the ensuing year.

19. The entire charge of clothing and arming the several corps will be borne in the Civil Department, and checked by the Civil Auditor.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. G. LUMSDEN,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10*th July* 1852.

No. 12.

No. 271 of 1850.

THUGGEE AND DACOITY DEPARTMENT.

To J. G. LUMSDEN, ESQUIRE,

Secretary to Government, Judicial Department,

Bombay.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, translation of a confession that has been made to me by a man named Khaidmut Alli Shah, *alias* Gajoo, son of Ameen Shah, disclosing the system according to which the class of which he is a member are in the habit of coining and uttering counterfeit monies in the countries subordinate to this Presidency, and generally elsewhere.

2. They form a sect of Mussulmans, who, the easier to disguise their purpose, travel about in the garb of religious mendicants, and are located chiefly in the valley Krishna, in the tract adjacent to Chimulgee and Moodeebehall, in which parts they are known by the name of "Chuppur bunds"—properly, I believe, "Chapa bunds"—which would more particularly imply their calling, "Chapah" signifying an impression or stamp, their dexterity at making resemblances of which is publicly well known in the districts; whereas "Chuppur," a thatch, would seem to have no meaning with respect to them. Among themselves they are called "Bhadoos," but in Hindoostan, and among Thugs and cheats generally, they are known as "Khoolsurryas," *i. e.* false coiners.

3. They are not the only persons that make and put off base coins, the crime being, I regret to say, a common one; yet their frauds, although constituting, when considered in single and occasional instances, but petty acts of crime, by the commission whereof in a market-town or in other crowded assemblage—their usual resorts—the character of the Police of the place would not be particularly at stake, may nevertheless be regarded on the whole, when so systematically practised, too contumacious in the main and real nature of their vocation to be passed unheeded, it being a grave offence to counterfeit the lawful current coin of the State.

Translation of the Confession of KIDMUT ALLI SHAH, *son of* RAHIMON SHAH, alias GAJOO, *son of* AMEEN SHAH, *Age* 28, *Caste Mussulman, by Profession a Khoolsurrya, or Coiner and Utterer of Counterfeit Money, inhabitant of Bewonhal, in the Chimulgee Jagheree of the Putwurdhun of Shetbal, given before Captain* CHARLES HERVEY, *Assistant to the General Superintendent of the Operations for the Suppression of Thuggee and Dacoity in the Territories subordinate to the Bombay Presidency, at Belgaum, on the 8th day of August* 1850.

As of old, my ancestors have earned their livelihood by cheating people; so have I for some time done likewise, but as several of my associates had began to be detected and punished by the Sirkar, I have lately left off committing such acts.

My father, and his fathers before him, used to coin false rupees, and to pass the same off to people, either in change for copper money, or in exchange for good rupees of other currencies; but I am unable at this present moment to detail at what places.

We would first go into some town, under the pretence of begging alms, and then, with some real rupees deposited about our waists, we would repair to the shop of some Sahoocar or other, and say that we wished to see some cloth, or other thing to buy. On their showing us the same, we would inquire the price, and if they said 2 or 4 rupees, we would bate them down by 4 or 8 annas of the price asked; and on their agreeing, we would produce some of the real rupees by us, and pay the price from the same. But after a short time, while yet at the shop, we would say that after all we did not want the cloth or other article, that it was too dear, and that we wanted it for even less; the dealers, not consenting, would give us back our money, and retake their cloth, and we would pretend to be going to some other shop. After a little period we would return to the same shop, now with false rupees in our hands.

No. 113 of 1852.

THUGGEE AND DACOITY DEPARTMENT.

To J. G. LUMSDEN, ESQUIRE,

Secretary to Government, Judicial Department,

Bombay.

SIR,

With reference to my report under date 29th October 1850, No. 271, (the habits of professional money coiners, I have the honor to submit the co fessions of two other parties of the same tribe, further showing that the crin

of making and uttering false money is still extensively practised by the above class of persons, located chiefly in the country beyond the Kristna, adjacent to Chimulgee, Hippergee, and Beejapoor.

2. I forward at the same time nine samples of coins, and three moulds, made in my presence by the confessing parties.

3. A mould serves only once, a new one being required for every rupee or other coin; it is made of unslaked lime, and a kind of yellow earth called "Shêdoo," finely pounded and sifted, and patiently kneaded with water to about the consistency of putty. One of the coins to be imitated is then pressed into some of the preparation, and covered over, and, being cut all round, is placed in some embers. After becoming hardened, it is carefully laid open with a knife, and the coin being taken out, its impression remains, as shown in the specimens I have submitted. The upper and lower pieces are then joined together with a kind of gum, and a small hole being made on one side, milled tin is poured in, and thus an imitation of the coin is obtained, and it only remains to rub it over with dirt to give it the appearance of old money, such as I have sent down. From the specimen, however, of the Company's rupee, it will be seen that money of that description is not readily made, and that it is only native currency that can be imitated.

4. The manner of passing off the base coin is clever: it was practised upon myself and others in my office without our discovering the cheat; it is done by sleight of hand.

5. The "Langotee" alluded to in the confession is also ingenious; anything might be safely stowed away in it without much fear of detection, the article itself and its place being forbidding.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. HERVEY, Captain,
Assistant General Superintendent.

Assistant General Superintendent's Office, Belgaum, 5th July 1852.

Translation of the Confession of CHUTTOO, *Son of* SHAIK MULLICK, *of Tukkulgee, in the Mungolee Talooka, of the Sholapoor Zillah, Age* 40, *given before Captain* HERVEY, *Assistant General Superintendent, on the 9th June* 1852.

When I was seized at Punderpoor I was accompanied by Mukkun. We had gone into the city, and we saw a Beparee leaving it, on his return to his own village. Mukkun addressed him, saying he was a poor mendicant, and had gathered together some change, would he exchange the same? He consented, and Mukkun counted over to him six Doodandee tukkas, equal to one rupee's worth of change. The Beparee thereupon handed over to him six rupees, bidding him to select from them any one he preferred. Mukkun

hereupon was preparing to pass off one of his false rupees among them in the place of a good one, when a Ramoosee coming up, seized him, saying he was one who passed false money, and he took him away. Mukkun had not, however, yet passed off the false rupee as above, but in searching him two false rupees were discovered. The exchange in the bazaar was at the rate of five tukkas for a rupee, but to cheat the Beparee, he had enticed him with the offer of six; the two false rupees we had made of tin while on the road, having it in our intention to make more as we might require them, for it takes no time to make them, not more than four ghutkas (about an hour and a half). We get some unslaked lime, which we pound, and make our moulds of it: in these we pour melted tin, and thus obtain our false rupees. We two had left our homes about eight or ten days previously. We are not able to practise upon any clever or knowing people, but only upon women, or other innocent persons. Our intention was to have gone on towards Aurungabad, Jalnah, &c. and to have returned in three or four months with whatever we might have contrived to obtain.

I know Gajoo, the son of Rahimon Shah, of Belhall; he follows the same calling as myself: we are commonly called "Chuppur bunds," not that we make Chuppers. I do not know how we should have got such a name; it has come down to us from our forefathers: by caste we are "Bhadoors." I was aware that Gajoo had been seized in the Walwah Pettah, but not that he made any statement before you. We all are located about Beejapoor, Mundolee, and in the Kogwar Ilaqua. We number altogether about 60 or 80 Pugrees, that is, there may be about 80 of us. I have heard that there are others of us in the direction of Mysore Puttun, but I have never been there. The following are our principal men, viz:—

1. Gachoo, residing at Hooee Huppurgee: he had three sons, the eldest of whom, Imam, is dead; two survive.

2. Nunhoo, Jemadar, used to be at Hungurgee, but he is now dead, and he has young sons.

3. Bungalee, who used to be at Nurgee: he had about seven or eight men.

These men had each their quotas. We used to be aware of such people as the Thugs now in your custody: they knew of us, and we of them, but we used never to practise their Thuggee, our business being only to pass off our base monies; but one of our people was seized as a Thug at Bhagewaree, and taken to Jubbulpoor, but he was released for want of proof: he is now at Bhagewaree. I do not know his proper name, but he is now generally called Jubbulpooree. In our villages we, for the sake of appearances, cultivate fields and rear poultry, and breed sheep; but our real means of subsistence is to travel about in the garb of Fucqueers, and pass off false money. At our homes we are dressed like other Mussulmans, but when we sally forth on our expeditions, we assume the dress and appearance of Fucqueers of the Muddar section, Muddar being our Peer; and we go about from village to village begging with beads round about our necks. We manage also to extort pice by suspending stones to our private parts, by exhibiting which we excite sympathy, for we won't move away till we are paid something. We only put on our Fucqueers' disguise when we

have left our homes, but on our return to our villages we put on our proper dresses. Should we meet any female, or other innocent persons, and believe them to have any money about them, we practice upon them as above.

There are other persons of our calling in other countries who dress very well, and who visit these parts on horseback : these cheat like us, to the extent of 2,000 or 3,000 rupees at a time, which they carry off to their homes. I don't know where they come from, but some of them on one occasion obtained by a cheat a sum of 3,000 rupees at Bhagulkote. They are not of our gangs, but are separate from us.

I have been engaged in this work for about twenty years, and I have been in the habit every year or second year of travelling about four or five months, and then returning home. Some of us will go out singly, others in parties of twos or threes : we are not often detected, but only occasionally, when we are released, the crime being regarded a petty one. When Mukkun was seized at Punderpoor, he beckoned to me to be off, or that I would also be taken : the Ramoosee observed this, and seized me also.

We have a separate slang language, which we use among ourselves, and when we set out we look out for omens : should any favorable one happen, we will go on, but not otherwise.

I have about ten or twelve accomplices, who have practised in my company, and I myself have been in the habit of visiting the tracts about Kolhapoor, Sanglee, Meritch, Tasgaum, Jalnah, and Aurungabad ; and if we are lucky we will on every expedition acquire about twenty or twenty-five rupees each—sometimes only about eight or ten rupees : there is nothing certain, and all depends as " Ishwar" will permit.

10th June 1852.

Question by the Assistant General Superintendent.—Where do you deposit your false rupees ?

Answer.—We wear " Lungotees," within the folds of which we have pockets, in which we conceal our bad money, so that if we happen to be searched, no one thinks of taking off and examining our lungotees, and so our real business does not get discovered.

The Confession on the same date of MUKKUN, *Son of* TUCKQUEER, *Age 38, Inhabitant of Berruldeence, in the Chimulgee Ilaqua, Caste Bhadoo.*

I and my cousin Chuttoo had set out from our homes, and in about seven or eight days had reached Punderpoor. I had by me a couple of false Chandoree rupees, also some copper change. I went with the same into the bazaar, and gave over to a Beparee six tukkas as change for one rupee ; he handed over to me six rupees, taking which, I passed off among them my two false rupees, appropriating two good ones in their place, when a Ramoosee came up, and seizing me, took me off, and my cousin was also seized and brought. This was the first attempt at this business during that expedition, and

I was intending to have gone on from there in the direction of Ambah, &c. Our people reside at Bhagewaree, Tukkulgee, Boodnee, and other villages about Beejapoor, Mungoolee, and Chimulgee, and there may be about forty of us. We pound chunam and shedoo (a kind of white earth) together, and make our moulds from this, into which we pour molten tin, and thus form our rupees, which pass off upon innocent people, for whom we look out for the purpose. The tin we purchase in the bazars, according as we may require any. Our money we prepare on the road. On setting out from our houses we watch for omens : if a "Ghargee" or "Ghurrah" gets broken, we will not proceed ; and we have a Parsi language peculiar to our calling, and which we adopt among ourselves. I have been engaged in this kind of work for the last five or six years, and I have only done what my ancestors have been in the habit of doing before me.

I know Gajoo, of Behnall, he is of the same calling and caste. In my own village there are about ten families of us ; Jubbulpooria, of Bhagewarree, is also of our calling. He used formerly to be at Nagmoor, where he was seized as a Thug, and taken to Jubbulpoor ; he was there released. I also know Gachoo, of Hoee Hippurgee : he has two sons, but an elder son he has lost. I used also to be acquainted with Nunchoo, of Hungurgee : he is dead.

We do not set out at any particular period, but go forth as it may be necessary to do ; but generally we sally forth after the rains. While at our villages, we have fields, and those who have not will borrow money, and repay the same on returning from their travels. Our women, too, are in the habit of sewing and making quilts, which we sell ; but our real business is nothing more than to make and pass off false money. But, as a general rule, we select women, countrymen, and such simple people for the purpose. We do not make any very great sums, but generally about twenty or twenty-five rupees each. For my part, I have been in the habit principally of visiting the country about Beejapoor, Ambah, Jogai (Momenabad), Tooljapoor, and Nuggur, where I have carried on this practice. We talk Mahrattee and the Parsi.

A false rupee we call ..... Agoo.
A real one ..... Tiaree.
A stranger ..... Numtah.
Caught, seized ..... Ooprel hogaya, and tiggolee.

Such are some of our slang terms. In this country we are called Chuppurbunds. Abroad we disguise ourselves as Fucqueers, calling ourselves Muddaree Fucqueers : but we are not Fucqueers in our own villages. The Patel, Koolkurnees, &c. of our respective villages know what we are and do, but we are permitted to live there by paying eight annas or so to the Police. A mould we call a Pach.

10*th June* 1852.

Question by the Assistant General Superintendent.—Where do you put away your false money ?

Answer.—For fear, on being searched, of the false money being found on our persons, and ourselves getting punished in consequence, we wear about

our middles a Lungotee, after the fashion of Koonbees, in the body of which we have pockets, in which we deposit the rupees ; so that if we are searched, our Lungotees are not examined, it being unlikely to secrete anything. But if any one should suspect the Lungotee, and happen to press his hand upon it, we get discovered. It is our practise to conceal our money in these Lungotees, and one of them has been found on Chuttoo.

(True translation.)

(Signed) C. HERVEY, Captain,

Assistant General Superintendent

No. 13.

INFANTICIDE.

The continued prevalence of the practice of female
medabad Collectorate was first brought to the notice of
Fawcett, in a letter dated the 30th December 1847.

2. Mr. Fawcett's attention had been drawn to the subject by Rao Saheb Thakursee Poonjashah, the Mamlutdar of Ahmedabad Duskrohee, by whom the disparity existing between the male and female population of the tribe of Lewa Koonbees had been noticed; a disparity which Mr. Fawcett conceived could only be accounted for by the existence of the crime.

3. On learning this fact, Mr. Fawcett directed the Mamlutdar to endeavour to get the tribe to enter into some arrangement, with a view to the suppression of the crime. The Mamlutdar accordingly assembled the principal persons of the tribe belonging to the Duskrohee, Jaitpore, and Dholka Purgunnahs, and after considerable demur, obtained from them an admission of the existence of the crime. They stated that it was caused entirely by the heavy expense incidental to the marriage of their daughters with the people of Chelotra, a district in the Kaira Collectorate about Pitland, where the Lewa Koonbees are of the highest rank in the caste.

4. At the suggestion of the Mamlutdar, however, they entered into a compact to reduce these expenses very considerably, viz. from about Rs. 3,800 to Rs. 480, and to abstain from entering into alliances with the people of Cheerotur,* among whom also they stated the practice prevailed. This compact, which was entered into by fifty-eight Lewa Koonbee villages, was submitted to Government with Mr. Fawcett's letter of the 7th January 1848. In handing it up, Mr. Fawcett stated that those who had entered upon it were anxious that it should be upheld by Government, observing, "I see no method of upholding it, except by security or recognizance; and, as far as I can judge, I think that course will be sufficient, if the District Police Officers take trouble to obtain good information of what takes place on the occasion of marriages, and the people themselves are not backward in giving intelligence. The check should, however, I think, be made more stringent than I proposed in my former letter, by requiring the father of a daughter, upon information that betrothal is intended, to give recognizance not to break the agreement without waiting for information of any intention to evade it, as otherwise money might be given secretly, and not found out till afterwards, when there would be no penalty to enforce."

* This restriction, however, is now no longer enforced, as the Lewa Koonbees of Chelotra subsequently entered into a similar compact.

5. In regard to the compact itself, Mr. Fawcett was of opinion that an arrangement of this nature, which was voluntary, and which struck at the cause of the evil, was much preferable to requiring security against the commission of the crime: since from the mode of its perpetration, viz. neglect, it would be difficult to bring the crime home judicially.

6. Mr. Fawcett at the same time brought to notice that infanticide existed among the Lewa Koonbees in His Highness the Gaekwar's Purgunna of Dehgaum, and that the city of Ahmedabad itself was not free from the stain: the marriage expenses continuing as high as ever, notwithstanding the decline of the trade of the city by the introduction of British manufactures. Mr. Fawcett stated that he had adopted measures with the view of getting the various sects to enter into some agreement for the reduction of these expenses, but represented that a similar arrangement which had been entered into by the Wissa Sermalee sect had, for want of the support of Government, been gradually broken through.

7. In conclusion, Mr. Fawcett remarked, "I am inclined to think that the practice now exposed is more general than is suspected. It is well known that the marriage expenses are in almost all castes heavy, and therefore the same inducement exists to get rid of their female children as is found to be the case amongst the people who have now admitted the existence of this unnatural custom.

8. On the 12th February 1848, Mr. Fawcett reported that the Lewa Koonbees of the Gaekwar's Purgunna of Dehgaum had also entered into the agreement, and that he had addressed the Resident at Baroda, requesting his aid in maintaining it.

9. In aid of this application, Government also called upon the Resident to suggest to the Gaekwar the propriety of issuing orders to his local officers to secure the due performance of the agreement, and to adopt such other measures as might be necessary for the suppression of female infanticide.

10. Whilst the discussion was in progress with the Lewa Koonbees, the Kurwa Koonbees of the city of Ahmedabad, and other castes likewise, expressed a desire to enter into a compact to reduce marriage expenses. In reporting these facts, Mr. Fawcett observed that a system of recognizance for so extensive an evil as infanticide would, he apprehended, be found practically too ponderous to be manageable. "At the same time," he added, "there seems much difficulty in meeting the requirements of the case in any other way. As regards the Kurwa Koonbees, their marriage year* will not arrive for three years to come, but still no time ought to be lost in supplying a remedy: for until the remedy is applied, children may continue to be sacrified to the vanity or necessities of their parents."

11. On the 13th March 1848, the Sudder Adawlut laid before Government a report from Mr. Hutt, the Judicial Commissioner for the Konkan and Guzerat, on the subject of female infanticide, as practised among certain classes in Guzerat.

* These people have particular years for marriages, at intervals of ten or eleven years, when at an appointed time all the marriages of the caste are celebrated.

12. Mr. Hutt stated, that he had for some years past a partial knowledge of the existence of the practice of infanticide; that he had only been prevented from bringing the circumstances to the knowledge of Government from the want of that evidence which might prove satisfactory to others, and that the information which he had collected led to the conclusion that the practice, so far from diminishing, had considerably increased since the establishment of the British rule; that it was not confined to the castes before alluded to, though in others it was kept so quiet as to render it impossible to detect it.

13. Mr. Hutt considered the measures adopted by Mr. Fawcett calculated to afford a fair prospect of success, provided that the penalty could be summarily enforced; of which, however, he entertained considerable doubt. Mr. Hutt was further of opinion that the less the people were interfered with, the greater would be the prospect of success.

14. In a communication from the Registrar to the Sudder Adawlut, dated the 29th April 1848, Government were apprized that since writing the above report, Mr. Hutt had visited the district of Cheelotra, where some of the principal people had expressed their readiness to enter into the agreement arranged by the Magistrate of Ahmedabad, and that the Court were of opinion that infanticide could undoubtedly be suppressed, provided the people became convinced that Government was in earnest in its desire to put it down.

15. On the receipt of this communication, the attention of the Collector of Kaira was immediately directed to the subject by Government. He was instructed to communicate with Mr. Fawcett, and then endeavour to prevail upon the Lewa caste in the Chelotra district to agree to the compact already subscribed to by their brethren in Duskrohee and Dholka. He was also requested to ascertain and report whether infanticide is believed to exist in any other part of his collectorate.

16. The Resident at Baroda was at the same time requested to move the Gaekwar Government to co-operate in these measures, by extending the compact to his share of Petlad.

17. The Judges of the Sudder Adawlut were also requested to issue a Circular to all Magistrates, informing them of the unexpected discovery of a systematic perpetration of female infanticide in certain districts of the Ahmedabad and Kaira Collectorates, with orders that they should institute inquiries, and ascertain whether there were any grounds for supposing that the same abominable practice existed in any part of their jurisdiction.

18. On the 21st December 1848, the Acting Resident at Baroda reported that instructions had been issued by the Gaekwar Government to the authorities at Dehgaum and Petlad to adopt all requisite measures for the suppression of infanticide among the Lewa Koonbees in those places.

19. On the 23rd April, the Sudder Adawlut submitted a report by Mr. Webb, dated the 12th of that month, detailing the measures which had been adopted in the Kaira Zilla, with a view to the suppression of the crime of infanticide. These consisted in the lessening of the marriage expenses, and agreements by the principal villages of the Neriad, Muhoonda, Napar, and Borsud Purgunnas, and in a compact similar to that entered into by the Lewa

Koonbees of Duskrohee. The Lewa Koonbees of Tarrapoor, in the Cambay district, likewise entered into a similar arrangement. The Collector, however, reported that, without the consent of the Petlad people, the compact would prove to be merely nominal. Through the exertions, however, of His Highness the Gaekwar, the Lewa Koonbees of this district likewise entered into a similar compact. His Highness was of opinion that the best results would follow, were arrangements made regulating the payments to Bhats and Charuns on occasions of marriage festivals. In regard to this suggestion, Captain French was of opinion that the Magistrate of Kaira should be empowered to seize all such persons found in his zilla proceeding unbidden to marriages.

20. The opinion of the Sudder Adawlut having been obtained on this suggestion, the following decision of Government was, on the 11th September 1849, communicated to the Acting Resident at Baroda :—

"With reference to the 3rd and 4th paras. of your letter, I am desired to state that His Lordship in Council sees no objection to the expulsion by the Gaekwar of any Bhat or Charun from his own territory; but if a Bhat, being a subject of British territory, were to infringe any local rule of His Highness' Government, there might be difficulty in punishing him under British law, if sent to our Magistrate for that purpose.

"In cases of this description, it would be better for His Highness to seize and punish the offenders against his laws, and to which course there could be no objection, if these persons were informed by proclamation that their presence was forbidden by the ruler of the state, and that they would be punished if they resorted thither.

"You will be pleased to communicate the above observations to His Highness the Gaekwar."

21. In a letter dated the 29th January 1851, the Sudder Adawlut (Appendix A) reported the result of the reference which they had been directed to make to the several Magistrates, to ascertain whether the practice of infanticide prevailed in other parts of the Presidency besides Kaira and Ahmedabad. It appeared, from the replies of the Magistrates, that there were no grounds for suspecting the existence of this revolting crime, except in the two collectorates alluded to.

22. Entertaining, however, some doubts as to the accuracy of the statement of the Magistrate of Broach on this point, the Court considered it necessary to point out the same to Mr. Davies, and that officer in his very interesting letter of the 27th June 1849 (Appendix B), explained at length his reasons for believing the conclusion at which he had arrived to be sound, viz. that the crime did not prevail within his jurisdiction.

23. These are—1st, the absence of any intimation of the crime in the late Colonel Williams' Statistical Memoir on Broach; 2nd, the denial of the crime by the most intelligent of the inhabitants of the province; 3rd, the absence of anything to the contrary on the records of the Magistracy; 4th, the fact that the Koonbees and Rajpoots married their daughters beyond the zilla, while they obtained no females in return; and 5th, the circumstance recently discovered by Mr. Davies, that Hindoos in reckoning the members of

their families very generally, except the girls, who are either betrothed or married to men of other villages, as well as the wives of their sons who happen to be in their houses, if they have not reached the age of puberty ; the two last circumstances being of a nature materially to affect the population returns, and to show a great disparity between the numbers of males and females.

24. In regard to the last of these circumstances, Mr. Davies observed, "this fact I have ascertained to my own satisfaction, and should the impression be a common one, it may explain in some degree the otherwise unaccountable preponderance of males over females in the census conducted under this Presidency."

25. This circumstance was communicated by Government to the various officers by whom population returns are framed, in order to their arranging for the due entry of all females in those returns, so that a future census might be relied upon to furnish data which should indicate with some certainty whether the crime of infanticide is general, and whether extraordinary measures are required for its extirpation.

APPENDIX A.

To the SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Judicial Department,

Bombay, Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, 29th January 1851.

SIR,

With reference to para. 14 of your letter No. 3908, dated 20th September 1848, requesting the Judges to issue a Circular to all Magistrates, informing them of the unexpected discovery of a systematic perpetration of female infanticide in certain districts of the Ahmedabad and Kaira Collectorates, and to ascertain whether there are any grounds for supposing that the same abominable practice exists in any part of their jurisdiction, I am directed to state, that a communication was accordingly made, and the Magistrates of the Zillahs named in the margin have reported that there are no grounds for believing this inhuman practice to exist in their respective Zillahs; the Magistrate of Dharwar, Mr. Bell, observing that the districts of the Ahmedabad and Kaira Collectorates, to which allusion is made, are probably those in which the Grassias and Thakoor Chiefs have a proprietary right in the soil, and periodical set-

Present,—A. Bell, J. Warden, P. W. LeGeyt, and G. Grant, Esqs.

Broach, Surat, Tanna, Rutnagherry, Belgaum, Dharwar, Sholapoor, Poona, Ahmednuggur, Nassick, Khandesh, and the Agent at Colaba.

tlements are made for the revenue at intervals of several years, so that there is little direct interference on the part of Government in the details of village administration; and that while it is very possible the practice of infanticide may have existed unobserved in such districts, he conceives it impossible that it can be carried on in districts where the administration is entirely in the hands of the servants of Government, and which are subject to constant visits by European officers.

2. The Magistrate of Broach was informed, in reference to his report on the subject, that the Judges were of opinion, that on further inquiry, he would see cause for doubting his conclusion, that female infanticide is not practised in his magistracy; and Mr. Davies has, accordingly, submitted the accompanying Report, in which I am directed to observe, that he has described the operation of this revolting practice on the society of Guzerat extremely well, and that the proposed measure of reducing, by general consent, marriage expenses will, no doubt, by lessening the temptation to the crime, diminish it; but that family pride not being so readily extinguished, the males of pure blood will still be preferred, and the females of the same race will still be liable to be left in a state of celibacy, or disposed of with difficulty, and to a race esteemed less noble than their own.

3. We should, therefore, the Judges think, associate with measures of deliverance from temptation, such steps as may render the undiscovered perpetration of infanticide more difficult: and, above all, strive to rekindle a feeling which pervades the whole female creation.

4. The Judges further direct me to add, that as we have lately seen that the natives of Calcutta have denied that their countrymen had the strong religious feeling which the British Government supposed, in respect to the cruel rite of Suttee, mental culture and enlightenment rendering them ashamed of having deposited living women on funeral pyres, so we may hope by the same means to rekindle in a mother's breast that love of offspring which is part of her nature. If the British Government had on its accession insisted that all District and Village Officers should send their sons to the large schools in the cities, and learn those principles of morality which are almost as instinctive as love of offspring, and held intercourse with the highest Native and European officers of the department of education, it is hardly possible, but that these men, having passed their lives to adolescence with the most civilized of their own countrymen, would ere this have carried into every village some feeling of horror at the suggestion that a mother should, not for the preservation of caste and reputation, for chastity, but for mere pecuniary consideration, abandon her new born infant; and we should in that case also have had at command a body of men, qualified as well as inclined, to promote the measures of detection which might be thought advisable; among which the Judges propose that a daily register of births, marriages, and deaths, should be kept in every village, and that an inquest under the superintendence of the Village Officers, should be held on the body of every professedly still-born infant.

5. No pains should be spared, at the same time, to reduce marriage expenses throughout the districts of the Guicowar, as well as those of the British

Government, and to carry out the measures* proposed by Captain French, a copy of whose communication accompanied your letter of the 18th July 1849, No. 3062.

6. The precaution should, the Judges are of opinion, be general, and not confined to those districts where the crime of infanticide is supposed to exist; they consider that everything calculated to irritate the people should be avoided, and while the object of all our measures should be to prevent "the reservation of sons for imported females, and the suppression of the propagation of their own," that they should be ostensibly only general measures of good government, for the encouragement of economy and the collection of statistical information: and infanticide should not be mentioned. In the spirit of this opinion, the breaches of compact alluded to by Mr. Webb, in his letter of the 12th April 1849, a copy of which was submitted to Government on the 23rd idem, No. 1067, should not, in the opinion of the Court, be punished or noticed in any manner; but at the same time it considers that a clearly established case of female infanticide, especially by a family of any consideration, should be punished with the utmost severity.

7. This was, the Court believes, the system adopted some years ago with the Jhanjas in Kattywar by Mr. Willoughby, and crowned, it is informed, with success.

8. Much might, the Court thinks, be done in furtherance of the object in view by the European servants of Government, and the Mamlutdars, Moonsiffs, and other influential Natives, showing that they take a personal and lively interest in the removal, from the parties in question, of the stigma which the imputation of the crime of infanticide has cast upon them; and by its being made known that Government will undoubtedly withhold its countenance and support from all to whom any suspicion of continuing the practice attaches.

9. In conclusion, I am desired to observe, that the Government schools should, the Judges think, as already suggested by the Court in its General Report on the Patelkee Wuttun, be thrown open gratis to the children of District and Village Officers, and that their inheritance to their Wuttuns should depend on their duly certified education and qualification.

* I have informed the Gaekwar that Bhats, Charuns, professional beggars, and others of a similar calling, subjects of the British Government, who may unbidden resort to the house in the Raj, where a marriage is being performed, should be seized and sent over the border. But if guilty of more than breaking local rule, by immigrating into this territory in opposition to orders, they should be seized and sent to a neighbouring Magistrate.

A copy of the Durbar notes, and of my Yad in reply, I have sent to the Magistrate at Kaira, with a suggestion that he should cause to be seized and sent to me for transmission to His Highness, all Bhats, Charuns, &c. &c. of this Raj, resorting unbidden to Kaira on the occasion of marriages.

From personal experience, I may say the most happy results were expected in Rajpootana from the adoption of like rules in 1844, regarding Bhats, &c. &c. of one state resorting to another, unbidden, on the occasion of marriages. The people want the moral courage necessary to enforce these rules: but if the local officers of the British Government in their zillahs strictly and stringently work them out, the prestige of the Charun is gone; and through a very simple operation, a great blow is struck at child-murder, more efficacious than Rules and Regulations.—*Letter from Captain French, referred to in para. 5.*

10. The Judicial Commissioner for the Konkan and Guzerat has intimated that he will not fail to give his best attention to the subject during his present circuit.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) M. LARKEN,

Register.

APPENDIX B.

To M. LARKEN, Esquire,

Register to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut,

Bomba;

Sir,

I now do myself the honor to submit, for the information of the Judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, a Report upon the question of female infanticide prevailing in this Magistracy, as called for by the Court in your letters Nos. 2844 and 2334, dated respectively the 30th September and 25th November 1848.

2. The doubts expressed in my letter to your address, No. 314, of the 17th November last, touching the existence of this revolting crime, were founded, principally, on the absence of all notice of the subject by Colonel (then Major) Monier Williams, in his valuable statistical Memoir on Broach, and partly on the best information which I could procure from intelligent people on the spot. To the first-named source I trusted much more than to the latter, knowing how little attention is bestowed by the generality of Natives upon subjects not immediately connected with their own interests, and being indisposed to rely upon information elicited from members of those castes among which the practice is commonly said to obtain. It appeared to me, that to an officer so intelligent, and of so enquiring a turn of mind as Colonel Williams, aided by the prolonged opportunities he possessed of acquiring minute information on all points of national character (witness his book), the existence of so horrible a custom could hardly have remained undetected, particularly when it is had in remembrance that the striking efforts of Colonel Walker, in 1808; of Major Carnac, in 1816; of Captain Ballantine, in 1817; and of the Honorable Mr. Elphinstone in 1821, to eradicate the practice in Cutch and throughout Kattywar, must not only have made Colonel Williams aware of its wide-spread existence, but of the importance of tracing it to our own provinces.

3. Opposed to the conclusions thus derived, I confess to having approached the subject with no knowledge of my own, nor did the Records of this Magistracy in any way assist me: they were absolutely silent upon the subject. Neither should I, up to the present time, have improved my stock of

information, but for accidentally meeting with an able article in the Calcutta Review for August 1844, from which it appears that Parliamentary Papers have been published, giving the results of all the inquiries set on foot into the practice of female infanticide in Central and Western India; and I must here be permitted to suggest, respectfully, that a copy of this Record would be of material importance in every zillah, not only as conveying the most authentic information hitherto collected upon a most interesting topic, but as leading the uninformed into approved channels of further inquiry.

4. Pursuing one of the methods commented upon in the Review, I now beg to lay before the Court the results of an experimental scrutiny conducted in (56) fifty-six Rajpoot and Coombie villages situated in different parts of the zillah, from which I am enabled to exhibit the relative proportions of male and female children actually present under the age of 12 years—a Statement, Accompaniment No. 1, to which I beg to refer you, conveys the details.

5. The Statement shows that a perfect equality of the sexes rarely exists, while the general disparity is obvious, and in some instances sufficiently alarming. There are, however, causes which I have recently discovered to affect the population returns to a degree which, conjoined with the practice obtaining amongst Coombies and Rajpoots, of giving their daughters in marriage *beyond* the zillah, while they obtain no females in exchange, may account for much of the perplexing disparity of the sexes.

6. The first of these is that, in giving the number of the inmates of their dwellings, Hindoos very generally *except* the girls who are either betrothed or married to men of other villages; secondly, they do not enumerate the sons' wives who may chance to be in the house, but have not arrived at the age of puberty. On being questioned as to their motives for making these exceptions, the common reply is, that the females in question are not regarded as belonging to their own number: the one is no longer one of the family, and the other has not yet become as one. This fact I have ascertained to my own satisfaction, and should the impression be a common one, it may explain in some degree the otherwise unaccountable preponderance of males over females in the censuses conducted under this Presidency, which is made the subject of particular comment in Mr. Acting Secretary Courtney's letter to the address of the Revenue Commissioner, Northern Division, No. 4317, of the 25th July 1848. In either case a proportion of females is thus positively lost to the Returns. If our Mamlutdars took generally a personal interest in framing the census of their districts, their superior intelligence would hardly fail to detect so important an error in the mode of registration; but as the work is usually delegated to Tullatees and Patels, whose qualifications for the task are of the very lowest order, and with whom a prejudice meets with acceptance in the direct ratio of its absurdity, the chances are that the error is corroborated, and even attains to the rank of an admitted principle.

7. The Mamlutdar of Broach, to whose personal zeal I am indebted for this discovery, found it to be as already stated in almost every village he visited for purposes connected with this Report. The betrothed and married daughters, and sons' wives, under the age of puberty, were systematically left out, and the excuse was on all occasions the same: "the girls you allude to

are no longer ours, they have homes of their own. As to the others, we do not yet look upon them as members of the family." Under this impression, the returns are in reality returns of families, and that, too, in a restricted sense; not of all those present under one roof. I, therefore, venture to bring the subject to the particular notice of the Court.

8. But, to revert to the subject more immediately under review. The foregoing causes are such as affect the census of the Hindoos generally; the third exercises a disturbing influence on the returns of Rajpoots and Coombies in particular. I allude to the practice in these castes of giving their daughters in marriage north of the Myhee, and in other districts beyond Broach, whence they receive no females in return: upon this subject I respectfully beg to quote the following passages from a Statistical Report, now in hand, drawn up in conformity with a call made by the Honorable the Court of Directors:—

"*Para.* 57.—The most interesting point in statistics being comparison, we are enabled to place the returns of the population in 1848-49 beside those recorded in Lieutenant Colonel Williams' Memoir 30 years ago. The population of Broach is there given (Table F. p. 59) at 2,29,527 souls, inclusive of alienated villages. That of 1848-49 is found to be as already stated, 2,68,578: the increase in 30 years of peace and prosperity has been, therefore, 14½ per cent.* A comparison may interest, also, in another respect, the proportion of males, namely, to females at both periods, respectively. According to Colonel Williams, the number of males in 1818-19 was 1,22,230 to 1,07,297 females, giving a preponderance in favor of males of 12.21 decimals per cent. In 1848-49 the males being stated at 1,42,932, and the females at 1,25,646, we still have the remarkably similar disproportion of 12.09 decimals in favor of the male sex.

"69. The following analysis of the sexes composing the population of Broach is taken from the columns of males and females given in the general statement appended to the Collector's Report of the 10th February 1846. Among the Kolies the preponderance of the male sex over the female is under 10 per cent. It is—

Among the Coombies		27¼
,,	Brahmins	12½
,,	Banyans	16
,,	Rajpoots	13½
,,	Jains	15½
,, Wild tribes.	Tullaveeas	12¾
,, Wild tribes.	Bheels	8
,,	Dhers	14
,,	Mussulmans	10¾
,,	Cacheas, or gardeners	14¾

"It has already been shown (para. 57) that the sexual disproportion has singularly maintained its ratio in the returns shown for 1818-19 by Colonel

* "This must be regarded as a very circumscribed rate of increase, compared with Great Britain. In 1811 the population of England, Wales, and Scotland (without the islands in the British seas), was 11,956,303; in 1841, thirty years later, the population was (with the same exception) 18,540,682, showing an increase of 35¾ per cent."—*Penny Magazine*, 1841, p. 488.

Williams, and again in those for 1848-49, given in this paper. The lapse of thirty years has made no alteration in the relative numbers of men and women. The Parsees appear to be the only tribe in which perfect equality of the sexes obtains. The castes of Lewa Coombies and Rajpoots are those in which the revolting practice of female infanticide is generally supposed to exist: and the unusual disparity of 27¼ per cent. between the males and females of the former of these would appear to lend colour to the surmise, were it not for the known practice amongst the Coombies of marrying their daughters across the river Myhee, and therefore out of the zillah. This practice will come under notice when treating of the condition of the people. Making this allowance, suspicion is lessened against this particular tribe ; and when it is farther seen that the sexual disproportion is not greater among Rajpoots than among Brahmins and Dhers, and is *less* than that quoted for Banyans and Jains—all four being castes which have never yet been supposed to murder their female offspring—and that the Mahomedans come under the same category, the inequality must fairly be pronounced referable to other causes yet undeveloped, the chief of which will, probably, hereafter be found to be a general dislike on the part of both counted and tellers to minute inquiries respecting their females. The prejudice is known to be a national one, and may, therefore, without violating probability, lead to an universal defect in the present system of registry.

"74. The Coombies of Broach derive their origin from the Kaira zillah, and look upon their own respectability as deteriorating in proportion as they relinquish the banks of the Myhee river. Those who still dwell upon the northern bank of that river, particularly those who inhabit the villages named in the margin, are looked upon by the Broach Coombie as quite exclusive, whose alliance is to be courted by all possible means. Next to these in pride of birth are certain Coombie villages on the south bank of the Myhee, in the Talooka of Jumboosur, and with these in turn the Coombies who inhabit the Broach Talooka think it a high honor to ally themselves. These latter, again, look with disdain upon those of their caste who have migrated south of the Nurbudda, thus interposing two considerable rivers between themselves and the land of their origin.

Bádren, Wussoo, Soojeetra, Háolee, Veersud, Dhar, Muz, Murriad, Bakrole, Peey, and others.

Gujera, Nonduna, Amunpoor, Nobar, Wulleepoor, Oobere, Hankhee, Kulmar, and others.

"75. It is to this feeling of exclusiveness, with its pecuniary results, that the crime of female infanticide is imputed to the Lewa Coombies. The exclusive families admit the daughters of others below them as wives for their sons, but on no occasion will they reciprocate by giving their own daughters into families of rank inferior to themselves. Thus the Coombies of the Churrotur, or district north of the Myhee, demand large dowers from those of Jumboosur, before admitting their families to intermarry with their sons. In like manner, the Jumboosur Coombie expects a similar dowry from the Broach Coombie, before he accepts his daughter as a match for his son ; and the father who resides south of the Nurbudda has to pay for the admission of his daughter into a Broach family. Hence arises a perpetual tide of female migration

from south to north throughout the zillah, and an eventual exportation of both women and specie across the Myhee.

"76. The practical working of this feeling of family pride is at once shocking and curious. The Churrotur Coombies, as representing the fountain of honor, intermarry only to a small extent among themselves, and that because they are directly interested in obtaining wives with large dowers from their less exclusive neighbours south of the Myhee. They, therefore, reserve their sons for the imported females, and suppress the propagation of their own. The Coombies of Jumboosur, the next in the scale of rank, knowing that every daughter in excess of the number of sons will be a source of expense to them, are all said to have recourse to the same revolting practice. If a man, it is said, have three sons and three daughters, he anticipates an equal income and expenditure. An income, that is to say, with the girls whom his sons marry, and an expenditure upon his own daughters, on their marriage into the Churrotur families. Should such a man have sons only, or an excess of sons, his pride of birth secures to him an excess of income over expenditure : if, on the other hand, female children come first, or consecutively, in the absence of sons, his pecuniary risk, it is rumoured, is obviated by strangling them at their birth. Such would appear to be the simple, though horrible theory of this unnatural feature in society.

"77. But as we descend the scale of rank, we find that the Broach Coombies, while having to meet a certain expenditure in obtaining for his daughters a rank above his own, is not himself held in such estimation by other Coombies of his own district as to tempt them to seek his alliance by a similar bribe. On the contrary, it happens that families beneath him in estimation compete with him for the honor of an entry into the exclusive families; so that besides seeing his neighbours' daughter preferred to his own, he has to obtain wives for his sons from poorer families around him, at a considerable outlay. In short, while all are covetous of ministering to the overweening pride of the aristocratic families, the lower ranks are driven into hostile competition with each other to promote their female children. There are villages in the vicinity of Broach, where, owing to the working of this artificial system of society, there are not half a dozen females in a community mustering hundreds of souls ; their women having been given away in marriage, either to the exclusive Coombie families of Jumboosur and the Churrotur, or to the better ones in their own immediate vicinity.

"78. That amidst this moral subserviency to the purposes of an infatuated pride, the unnatural crime of female infanticide should arise, can hardly be doubted, nor is it unfair to attribute its origin to those families whose pretensions to pride of birth and exclusiveness first led to their alliance being thus coveted in marriage. Accordingly, the Churrotur, or district on the north bank of the Myhee, is, and has long been, by common acclamation, regarded as its fountain head. Whether the crime has extended to the Broach district or not is a question ; but, while there is no direct evidence to show that it has, the disparity of the sexes amongst the Coombies, commented upon in the 69th para., would certainly warrant an unfavourable conclusion, but for the disparity being in a measure explained by the exportation of females beyond the zillah.

" 79. The evil, however, has at last worked its own cure, or bids fair to do so. The constant pecuniary drain upon the Broach Coombies, caused by this desire to ally themselves by marriage with those of a higher rank, has led to results which neither penal nor sumptuary enactments have elsewhere brought about. Combinations amongst the Coombie communities have been voluntarily organised to break this bondage to a long-cherished custom, and to enter into reciprocal agreements (backed by heavy penalties) to intermarry only amongst themselves, and upon such easy terms as their mutual interests may decide upon. The lead appears to have been taken about three years ago by the people of the town of Ahmode, conjoined with nine or ten villages of the Wagra district, who bound themselves by a solemn compact to intermarry only with each other. The example was followed by the frontier villages of Matur, Munjola, Wasna, and eight others. The town of Jumboosur also joined the league. But it was left for the current year to behold a general movement to take place, having for its object the discarding of all trammels connected with traditionary pride of family. No less than sixty-six Coombie villages of Broach, Wagra, Jumboosur, and Ahmode, and twelve of the Korul " Tappa" (division of that name) under Baroda, have entered into a solemn league and covenant not to marry their daughters into strange families, but to unite themselves by mutual ties of blood and interest to the improvement of their morals, and prevention of a constant drain upon their resources. There is no room for doubting that under such a wide spread combination, the exclusive Coombie families of the Churrotur will be necessitated to reform their own social system, and rear up their females to meet the demands which, foreign importation being withheld, the alternative of intermarriage must immediately tend to create.

" 80. The Rajpoots have also their aristocratic circles, into which it is considered a high honor to promote their females by marriage. The foremost of these are the Jharijas of Kattywar, a tribe long connected with the annals of female infanticide in that province. Below these are the Runnas (or Thakors), the Grassias, and the common Rajpoots. These regard the settlement of their daughters in Baroda, Rajpeepla, and on the western side of the Gulf of Cambay as high and honorable as did lately the Broach Coombies estimate an alliance with the Churrotur. However this may be, a comparison of the sexes amongst the Rajpoots presents nothing peculiarly striking, the disproportion of males over females (see para. 69) being not more conspicuous than in tribes which were never supposed to encourage infanticide."

9. The foregoing information, particularly that connected with the general covenant alluded to in the 79th para., would have been laid before the Judges at an earlier period, but that I awaited the completion of certain returns. Under the circumstances, however, of the paper from which the above paragraphs are extracted being still unfinished, I trust it will not be imputed to me that I have made the information first due to the Court subservient to other views. A translate of the covenant in question will be found appended to this Report, Accompaniment No. 2, holding, as I do, that the document is of sufficient interest to merit being thus prominently brought forward.

10. The disparity of Coombie boys over girls, in the Statement accompanying, will be found to be 31 per cent., taking the aggregate of the fifty-six villages into which the present inquiry has extended. This is in excess of that quoted for the whole Coombie caste throughout the zillah, which is 27¼. This latter is at the same time about 15 per cent. in excess of the average given for the whole population (12.09 decimals), though it exceeds the disproportion in other tribes by only 11 or 12 per cent. Until, therefore, it can be demonstrated that the proportion of Coombie women lost to the returns by the custom of marrying them out of the zillah is less than this difference—in other words, that not so many as 11, 12, or 15, out of each 100, are sent across the Myhee (and my inquiries tend to the belief that a greater per-centage should be allowed), it is an obvious injustice, in my humble opinion, to affix so foul a stigma as the charge of female infanticide upon the Lewa Coombies of Broach.

11. With respect to the Rajpoots, the remarks offered in the 69th para. of the statistical report should, on a *primâ facie* view of the case, exempt them also from the unnatural charge. If not, we necessarily, and by a parity of reasoning, inculpate the Banyans, Jains, Cacheas, and Dhers, and should all but include Brahmins and Mussulmans, all of them classes hitherto believed to be above the reproach of murdering their female offspring. The disparity of boys and girls in the accompanying Statement (24⅔ per cent.) is greater, certainly, than that quoted for the whole collectorate; but it admits of explanation. The disproportion will be seen to be greatest in the Broach Talooka, and this is accounted for by all the villages examined being situated immediately on the Rajpeepla and Baroda frontiers, with the Runnas and Grassias, of which territories the Rajpoots are as fond of allying themselves by marriage, and are at the same time as denuded of reciprocity in the matter, as are the Lewa Coombies with regard to the Churrotur.

12. A copy of a letter upon this subject, received from my First Assistant, Mr. Compton, I also beg to append. Mr. Compton does not appear to be aware that a disproportion of males over females has already become an admitted feature in the population returns of the Bombay Presidency. Mr. Compton also gathers—but only on surmise—that the crime of female infanticide is not yet wholly extinct in the districts under his charge. The forced, unnatural, and, it may be added, unnational state of celibacy into which both sexes are shown to be plunged, is worthy of attention. Mr. Compton attributes the evil to heavy marriage expenses; but I do not quite concur with him in tracing this state of things to that source alone. He has mistaken, I think, cause for effect, since these incommensurate charges are obviously the bitter fruits of that contempt of neighbourly association, which has originated an absurd system of competing for the honor of an alliance with exclusive families of foreign extraction, who impart nothing worth having in exchange. Where people intermarry freely with each other, their marriage expenses are sure to be brought down to the level of their mutual means; or whence else this wide-spread reaction of opinion among the Lewa Coombies?" It is not to be supposed that they are thus led to contemplate a purely moral reform; but a long and dear bought experience has at

last proved to them, that a departure from the calls of mutual dependence and sociability has beggared them in purse, and rendered their children a laughing-stock to the world,

13. With apologies for occupying so much of the Court's time,

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. M. DAVIES,

Magistrate.

Broach, Magistrate's Office, 27th June 1849.

ACCOMPANIMENT No. 1.

Statement showing the Proportion subsisting between Male and Female Children under 12 *Years of Age, of the Rajpoot and Sewa Coombie Classes, in* 56 *Villages of the Broach Zillah.*

Names of Villages.	Rajpoots.		Males over Females.	Coombies.		Males over Females.
	Male Children.	Female do.		Male Children.	Female do.	
Jumboosur.						
Hunkhee	12	12		77	77	
Veeruch	26	15		23	11	
Gujera	2	1		285	178	
Nondona	0	0		64	35	
Nobar	1	0		47	32	
Ameenpoor	0	0		77	47	
Kavee	0	0		30	22	
Segaum	106	102		3	2	
Chiddara	32	17	22 per cent.	34	16	34½ per cent.
Juntran	0	0		36	23	
Wurudla	40	14		13	10	
Sarode	113	90		0	0	
Kora	11	16		0	0	
Kawa	25	19		46	21	
Kalluk	3	2		9	13	
	371	288		744	487	

Names of Village-	Rajpoots.		Males over Females.	Coombies.		Males over Females.
	Male Children.	Female do.		Male Children.	Female do.	
Ahmode.						
Bojadra	28	21		0	0	
Khobla	21	14		16	7	
Dadapoor	0	0		5	3	
Matur	13	21		24	20	
Neemun	7	6		27	15	
Runára	18	12		0	0	
Tuncha	21	17	26 per cent.	15	6	30 per cent.
Kerwara	34	14		19	9	
Ochun	0	0		8	8	
Boowa	0	0		64	43	
Nahier	0	0		16	20	
Bheempura	0	0		34	19	
Pahaj	30	21		0	0	
Keswun	11	7		0	0	
Junneeaora	22	20		0	0	
Rodh	0	0		10	16	
Ahmode	4	1		69	49	
	209	154		307	215	
Broach.						
Wurudla	0	0		28	19	
Huldurwa	0	0		19	22	
Shapura	0	0		35	30	
Oopralee	0	0		30	11	
Burthana	0	0		20	21	
Samlode	0	0	35 per cent.	35	38	17 per cent.
Nandh	15	11		0	0	
Junore	63	45		0	0	
Ungareshwur	14	12		0	0	
Nikora	48	28		94	78	
Sookulteeruth	49	29		5	1	
Towra	31	17		0	0	
	220	142		266	220	
Wagra.						
Karela	0	0		60	29	
Sanchun	24	23		12	8	
Kélod	7	7		2	6	
Parkhet	10	9		14	14	
Ghumnad	70	43		6	8	
Kesloo	8	8	12 per cent.	27	15	38 per cent.
Sumnee (Sutral)	3	4		35	10	
Ora	13	17		0	0	
Wuchnár	9	12		0	0	
Sooree	12	14		0	0	
Wagra	0	0		27	21	
Khandalee	0	0		5	4	
	156	137		188	115	

ABSTRACT.

Talookas.	Rajpoots.		Males over Females.	Coombies.		Males over Females.
	Male Children.	Female do.		Male Children.	Female do.	
			per cent.			per cent.
Jumboosur, 15 villages	371	288	22	744	487	34½
Ahmode, 17 ditto	209	154	26	307	215	30
Broach, 12 ditto	220	142	35	266	220	17
Wagra, 12 ditto	156	137	12	188	115	38
Total, 56 villages..	956	721	24⅔	1,505	1,037	31

(Signed) J. M. DAVIES,
Magistrate.

Broach, Magistrate's Office, 27th June 1849.

ACCOMPANIMENT No. 2.

Translate of a "Mutual Covenant entered into by the Lewa C Broach (including Wagra), Ahmode, Jumboosur, and Baroc to their Virgins not being given in Marriage beyond the pale of the undermentioned Villages."

"1. Virgins to be mutually given and taken (in marriage) in the undermentioned villages only, and none to be bestowed in other quarters contrary to the terms of this agreement. Should any persons infringe these rules, established by the general assembly (Punchait) of the caste, such persons, as well as others aiding and abetting, are liable to be put out of caste, or fined, as the 'Punchait' may see fit.

"2. Dowers given with brides to be regulated by the 'Punchait.'

"3. All we, the undersigned, bind ourselves to adhere to these rules established by the 'Punchait'; those who infringe them are at the mercy of the 'Punchait.' So help us Runchor Raee.

"4. We who have, prior to this covenant, entered into preliminaries of marriage in contravention thereof, do hereby engage to break off the same. Those who do not do so shall be put out of the caste, and such of our relations who still favor such engagements are to be dealt with as the 'Punchait' see fit.

"We agree to abide by the foregoing four clauses. Dated Sumvut 1905, Chytur Sood 7th, Saturday (A. D. 1849, March 31st)."

Here follow the signatures of the Patels of the undermentioned (74) seventy-four villages, viz :—

Ráhar,	Mesral, B*	Suruthla,
Tralsa,	Bheempoora,	Boree,
Kava,	Detral,	Chawuj,
Suladra,	Villayet,	Tuncha,
Keemoj	Surbon,	Osára,
Neenum	Tegwa, B,	Kerwara,
Bheersu	Dadapoor,	Oomra,
Parkhet,	Munglesur,	Wassee,
Karéla,	Asnéra, B	Mach,
Nahier,	Dussan,	Kassud,
Rodh,	Ara,	Wureadia,
Burthana,	Mangrole,	Ochur,
Wagra,	Kurjun,	Hulderwa,
Kisnar.	Kurmenina, B	Momeejo, B
Shapura,	Koorla,	Alumpara, B
Bumbosur,	Adoles,	Derole,
Wurradla,	Khundalee,	Kavitha,
Argama,	Jooned,	Samole, B
Parkhét,	Eetola,	Wagoosna,
Kulmee Waga,	Koowadur,	Sall, B
Raharpoor,	Samnee Sutral,	Ambher, B
Ochun,	Uldur,	Kelod,
Sennilia,	Pagoothun,	Vuoogaum, B
Oopralee,	Rassod, B	Name (omitted)

And two others, of which the names are not yet entered.

(True translation)
(Signed) J. M. DAVIES,
Magistrate.

No. 21 of 1849.

To J. M. DAVIES, Esquire,

Magistrate of Broach.

Sir,

I have now the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 100 of 1849, of the 4th April last, on the subject of the supposed prevalence of the crime of female infanticide in the districts under my charge.

2. If the practice formerly prevailed in this collectorate, I agree with you that it is very unaccountable that the subject did not arrest the attention of

* The letter B denotes Baroda Villages.

Major Williams, and was not even noticed in his reports. Isolated, however, as European functionaries are in position, feelings, and habits from the Native community, and precluded as they are by the prejudices of caste from visiting the Natives in their homes, and becoming acquainted with the more secret customs of the people, it must be not a little difficult for a European to discover to what extent, if any, a crime of this nature is carried on; especially where such large and influential classes of the Natives are interested in concealing its existence.

3. In the almost utter impossibility of ever detecting a crime committed with such complete facility as the depriving an infant of life, I agree with you that all we can do is to draw the best conclusions we can from the data furnished by a census.

4. I beg to forward herewith censuses taken by the District Police Officers of Jumboosur and Ahmode, from which you will perceive that in fifteen villages of the former district there are stated to be 744 Lewa Coombie boys to 487 girls; and 371 Rajpoot boys and 288 girls; while in Ahmode there are stated to be 307 Lewa Coombie boys to 215 girls; and 209 Rajpoot boys to 154 girls. Assuming that these returns, if not strictly correct, approximate to accuracy, the great disproportion between the number of males and females in almost every village seems somewhat startling, when it is taken into consideration that in all countries the number of female births exceeds the male by, I think, from 6 to 10 per cent.

5. Still more significant and suspicious, in my opinion, is the circumstance that of

307	Lewa Coombie	boys in	Ahmode only	24
215	Ditto ditto	girls in	ditto	47
209	Rajpoot	boys in	ditto	15
154	Ditto	girls in	ditto	17

are stated to be married. This would seem to furnish abundant proof of the almost insuperable difficulties of marrying amongst these classes. It is notorious that no Native, male or female, remains single, except from necessity; that celibacy, in fact, is even considered disgraceful. There can be little doubt, therefore, that so large a proportion of these respectable classes would not remain unmarried were it not for the powerful deterrent motive of the ruinous expenses attendant upon weddings.

6. The Coombie Patels of the Kaira Zillah stated lately, before the Magistrate, Mr. Webb, that the sum which a father was liable to pay on the occasion of his daughter's marriage was upwards of Rs. 1,500. A powerful incentive to the crime of infanticide is here clearly supplied, in the circumstance that the child must either be condemned to a life of cheerless celibacy or dishonor, or entail ruinous expense on her father by her marriage.

7. The difficulty experienced by Coombies throughout Guzerat of obtaining wives is of course well known to you. Our criminal returns alone furnish abundant proof of the fact in the number of cases in which Koli women are brought to a distance from their homes to a district where there is little chance of their being recognized, palmed off as Coombies, and sold to utter strangers to be *wives*, not kept women. Such a practice manifestly could not gain

footing amongst men who could procure wives amongst the members of their own community.

8. The censuses forwarded herewith have been very hurriedly framed, and avowedly made on the statements of the people themselves, and in my opinion no Native census is to be relied on very implicitly, from the known distrust which an inquiry of this personal and domestic nature raises in the minds of the people. It is fair, however, to assume, that they have some inkling of the object of the inquiry, and do not state the case unfavorably for themselves.

9. By their own showing, the number of female children amongst the Rajpoots and Lewa Coombies is unaccountably and suspiciously small, and when this is coupled with the fact that a powerful incentive to the crime exists in the expenses connected with weddings, I am humbly of opinion that there is *primâ facie* presumptive evidence that the practice of infanticide obtains to some extent.

10. If the revolting and inhuman practice does prevail, the only remedy would seem to be to strike at the root of the evil by removing the cause, and this, it appears to me, can only be effected by the general consent of the people. I do not perceive how the custom could be abolished, or even checked by legislation ; first, because I do not think a Government justified in dictating to its subjects the precise sums to be expended for particular purposes ; and, secondly, that never yet, perhaps, was a social law which human ingenuity will not find means to evade.

11. The Patels of the Kaira Zillah have signified their willingness to bind themselves not to exceed the sum of Rs. 300 on the occasion of their daughters' weddings, provided those of their caste in the neighbouring zillahs and territories will also subscribe to the agreement. Mr. Webb, however, informs me, that the Gaekwar is unwilling to exert his influence with his subjects towards furthering the object in view ; and, therefore, as far as the Kaira Coombies are concerned, matters are in *statu quo.*

12. I cannot help thinking it highly desirable that the exorbitant expenses incurred by these classes at their weddings should be reduced to some uniformly low rate—lower, if possible, than that agreed to by the Kaira Patels ; and, should you desire it, I will ascertain the feelings of the principal Rajpoots and Coombies of this district on the subject. Rs. 100, in my opinion, ought to be amply sufficient ; but one of the Nondhuna Patels, I believe, in this very year, expended Rs. 2,000 on his daughter's wedding.

13. This report would have been forwarded at a much earlier date, but, on my arrival here a few days ago, I found that neither Bapoojee Nundlall, the late Ahmode Mamlutdar, nor Dewchund Manchund, the Jumboosur Mamlutdar, had (as both of them had been ill) instituted, or rather completed any inquiries on the subject, and I was obliged to direct the Acting Mamlutdars to make out a census as quickly as possible. It may, perhaps, be as well to have these verified by a second more careful and prolonged inquiry.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) T. A. COMPTON,
First Assistant Magistrate.

First Assistant Magistrate's Office, Jumboosur, 16th June 1849.

P. S.—I have omitted to mention that both Bapoojee Nundlall and Dewchund Manchund expressed to me their belief that female infanticide is practised, though not to any great extent.

(Signed) T. A. COMPTON,
First Assistant Magistrate.

(True copy.)
(Signed) J. M. DAVIES,
Magistrate.

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